

Otaku asia

November-December 2014

Php 95

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EVOLUTION

RURONI KENSHIN 3
THE LEGEND ENDS

*Love,
Agnessi*

VOCALOID 3

CHRISTMAS ISSUE | CHRISTMAS ISSUE | CHRISTMAS ISSUE | CHRISTMAS ISSUE | CHRISTMAS ISSUE | CHRISTMAS ISSUE

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OTAKUGOODIES: COSMIC BYTES | EYE CANDY SHOP | PERKEE
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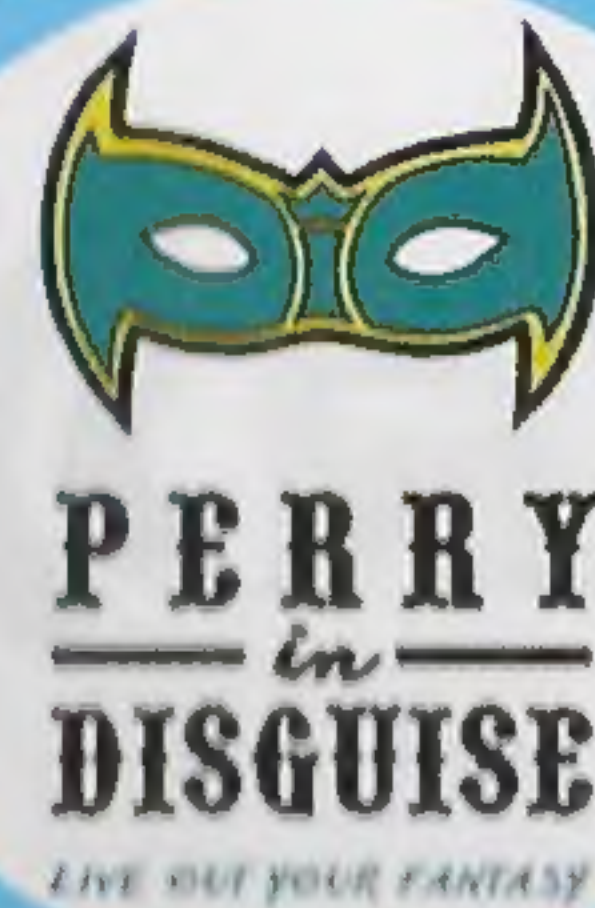
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P 59 ONLY

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Christmas time is nearing and we at Otaku Asia want you to be ready with gifts for yourself, family, friends, teachers or bosses. We will introduce our partner stores to guide you with gift ideas. To make it even better, we will teach you how to make paperbags and santa hats~ It's also time for food so we have the online bakery, Love, Agnessi and a homemade eggnog recipe, the OA way!

For some, Christmas is more about the break from school and work, to have time for themselves. To start you off, we've featured Vocaloid for music, anime and manga all in one! Since a new season of anime is starting, we've added more Hot Anime, Reviews, Manga and Live Action.

We've also introduced ourselves in the O-kun Tale's section!

So relax and enjoy~

-GM Kanddy

CONTRIBUTORS QUESTION:

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE VOCALOID CHARACTER?

Kaito.... only boy :))
-Kent Diamante

Lily. I like her overall appearance and design the most.
-John Lim

CUL Because she's Red and she's voiced by Kitamura Eri
-Aira Agacan

IA...aside from being voiced by Lia, she dos posses a straight forward and honest personality....to the point of being very blunt xD
-Mikelle Abubo

Luka Megurine. Because she has this onee-san aura around her when she sings.
-Nathaniel Angeles

Hatsune Miku. First vocaloid character I've known and slightly fond of characters in high pony/pig tails >w<
-Dianne Gaviño

I don't have a favorite particular character, but I've listened to some Hatsune Miku songs before, they're nice
-Dhanliza Cellona

Not much of a fan but I like Gakupo the most because of his warrior-like appearance and nice voice xD
-Ren Santos

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INBOX



Konnichiwa Otaku Asia! thank you for make me excited and happy by reading Otaku asia... eto po yung unang post ko po dito sana po mafeature po yung message na to sa next issue nyo po! like ko po talaga yung magazine nyo lalo na po yung Art of otaku it gave me many idea in drawing anime. ahh! pwede po parequest ng sword art online gun gale at attack on titan yung lang po. At sana magtagal po yung magazine nyo at more blessing pa dumating sa inyo :D

Binabati ko po pala yung mga best friends ko si jezza, janzel, mark kenneth, kristelle, marys, justine at lahat ng iba ko pang mga best friend ko at classmate ko dyan, teachers and especially my family. Ahhhh! bago ko po makalimutan sana mafeature po itong drawing ko para sa iyo sana po magustuhan nyo! maraming thank you po!

-Cloienicole Elchico



Hi Otaku Asia

Dalawang issue niyo pa lang po ang nasa akin at nagulat po ako sa last issue niyo nandun po yung art ng kaklase ko XD

first time ko po na magpost dito, sana naman mabasa ko tong message kong ito sa next mag niyo...

share ko lng po ang natsu Dragneel drawing ko, normal faber castell #2. taghirap po kasi ako ngayon eh ^__^ di makabili ng Steadler XD haha

Pwede po ba mag request? Sana po ma feature ang Axis Powers Hetalia, favorite anime ko po kasi iyon eh Pati po sana ang tokyo ghoul

haha anyway, thank you OA sana marami pang bumili ng magazine ninyo

-Elaiza Marie Cruz



Just got your latest issue. Awesome as always! Love the sailor moon poster. It's now displayed in my room. I also loved the review of the anime figures! Now I want them (although I don't have the budget.. -sigh-) Will this be a regular feature?

-Bryan Cabingan

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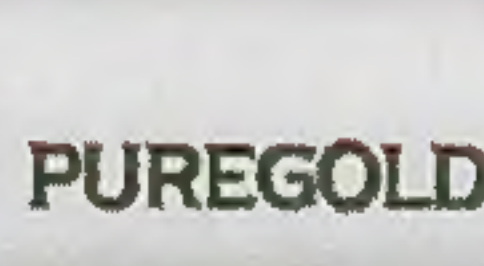
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Hello Otaku Asia, pa-share naman po ng drawing ko (Kurumi Tokisaki from Date A Live).. lagi kong inaabangan ang mga updates nyo from your fb fanpage.. gusto ko rin pong ma-feature ang isa sa mga favorite kong anime na "Shakugan no Shana" sana marami pa po kayong mapasayang mga kapwa ko OTAKU..

Thank You very much and Godbless

- Eira Mhae Mallari



I bought ur new awesome issue.. cant wait for more! Keep up the good work! ovo Can you put Shingeki no Kyojin as ur cover on le next issue? If its okay... hehehe o//~//o thanks for putting Heichou der, it made me really happy ja ne!

-Rhuss Geagoni



Raven Wenchelle Ann Margate



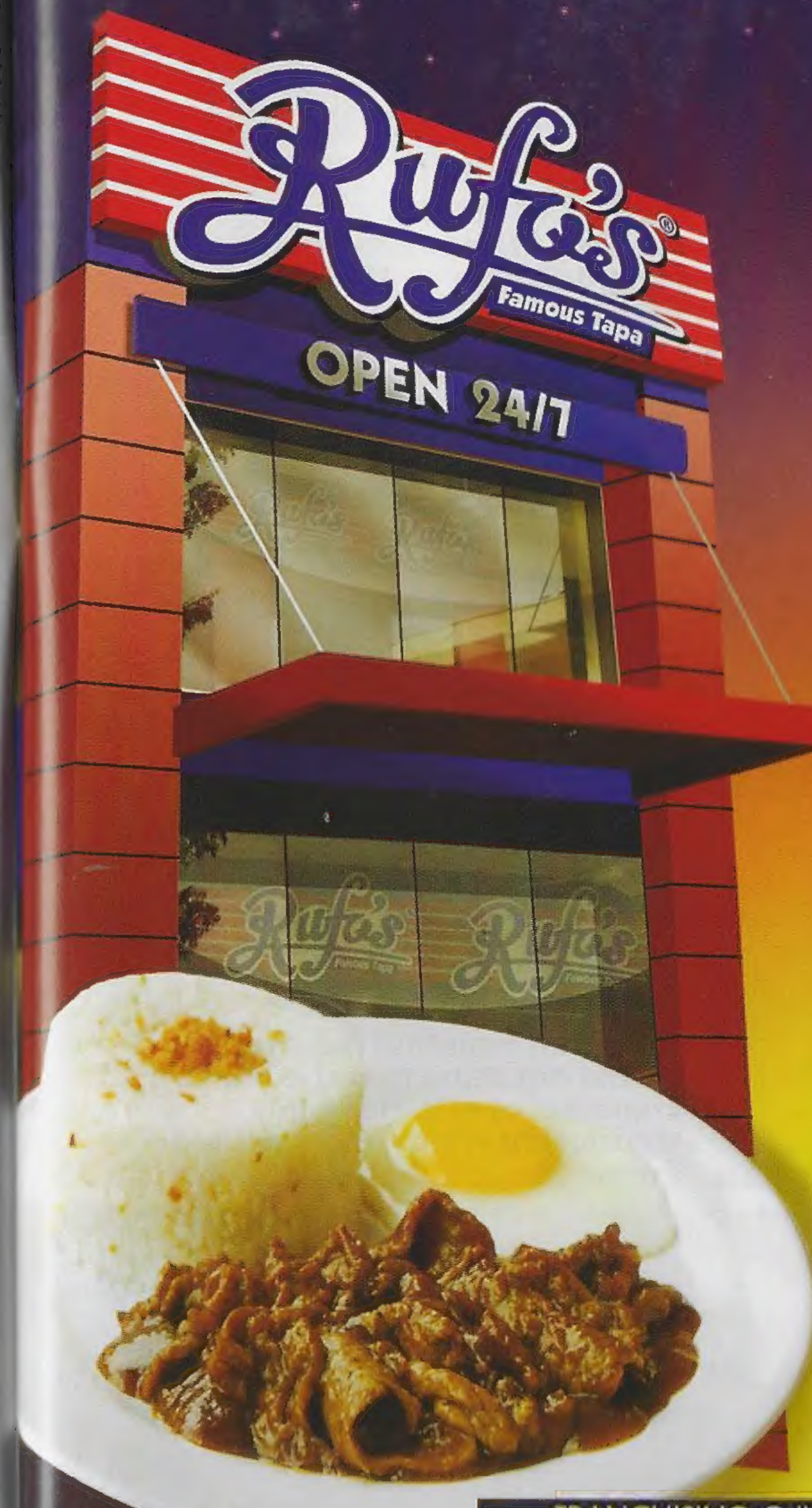
Konnichiwa! Otaku Asia! I'm Luis Arellano (^w^)/ ito po yung first time kong mag-submit ng isang artwork ko. Sana po ma-feature po ito sa susunod na issue. Ito po yung galing sa issue ng May. Thank you very much and more power to Otaku Asia Magazine! ^~^

-Luis Arellano

Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout? Fanart to showoff? We would love to hear from you!



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Product: Pre-painted figure
Height: 38cm Weight: – kg
Scale: 1/6

Chaos, strife, discord: all of these would be proper description for Eris.

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As an expert of provocation, she had induced several discords in heaven, which leads to her exile. Instead of learning a lesson, she decided to continue her evil deeds in the mortal world.

With that beautiful face, you would not think that she is a character of evil. Her name, translucent wings and a wicked armor



outfit gives you an idea of her foul background. The paint job on her face and the details of her armor is deserving of applause. But then they did not stop there, they also gave her a set of huge wings!

4/5 Sculpting – I actually want one for myself because look at that paint job, that ruffles on her waist and her awesome boots but for making a big figure stand on one foot? I'd give them a 4/5.

4/5 Paint – No one goes wrong with red and gold but they could have had a better wing color.

5/5 Packaging – Minor assembly required and they will also give an extra package box for the safety of the figure.

5/5 Value – This is a very beautiful creation and an exclusive figure from E2046. It'll grace your collection with chaos, strife and discord.



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The biggest e-sports and gaming convention is here! ESGS will be held on November 15-16, 2014 at SMX Convention Center. A 2 day event where game publishers and developers can feature their games in different platforms and whether the are in beta, current or upcoming. What makes it more exciting is that the public can test and play it for free! There will be also gaming competitions and cosplay competitions! Stay tuned for information on their facebook page: www.facebook.com/esgsphilippines for more updates. See you there!

Some of the games that will be introduced:

Love Beat, Crossfire, Point Blank Evolution, A Knight in 2 Quest Brain it on, Manic Market, Immunation! Game of Cells, Pillage People, Warrior Defense, Belial Ars Daemoni, Dragon Nest SEA, Wakfu and many more~.

Princess Noriko's Wedding



photo taken from: imperialfamilyjapan.wordpress.com/tag/princess-noriko/

Last October 5, 2014, Princess Noriko of Takamado got married at the age of 26 with Kunimaro Senge held at the Izumo Grandshrine located at Shimane Prefecture. Princess Noriko left her imperial status the moment she becomes a part of Senge family; following the rule about marrying a commoner. The couple wore ancient garments: the Japanese formal court attire and kimono which also includes the traditional hairstyle.

The couple were greeted and congratulated with over two thousand people at the shrine raising and waving the Japanese flags. This will a mark a new life for her; she will help with festivals and rituals with the Senge family who lives next to the shrine grounds. In addition to that, the Japanese government gave the new couple 106.75 million yen for allowance.





HOOKED BOOK

written by Ren

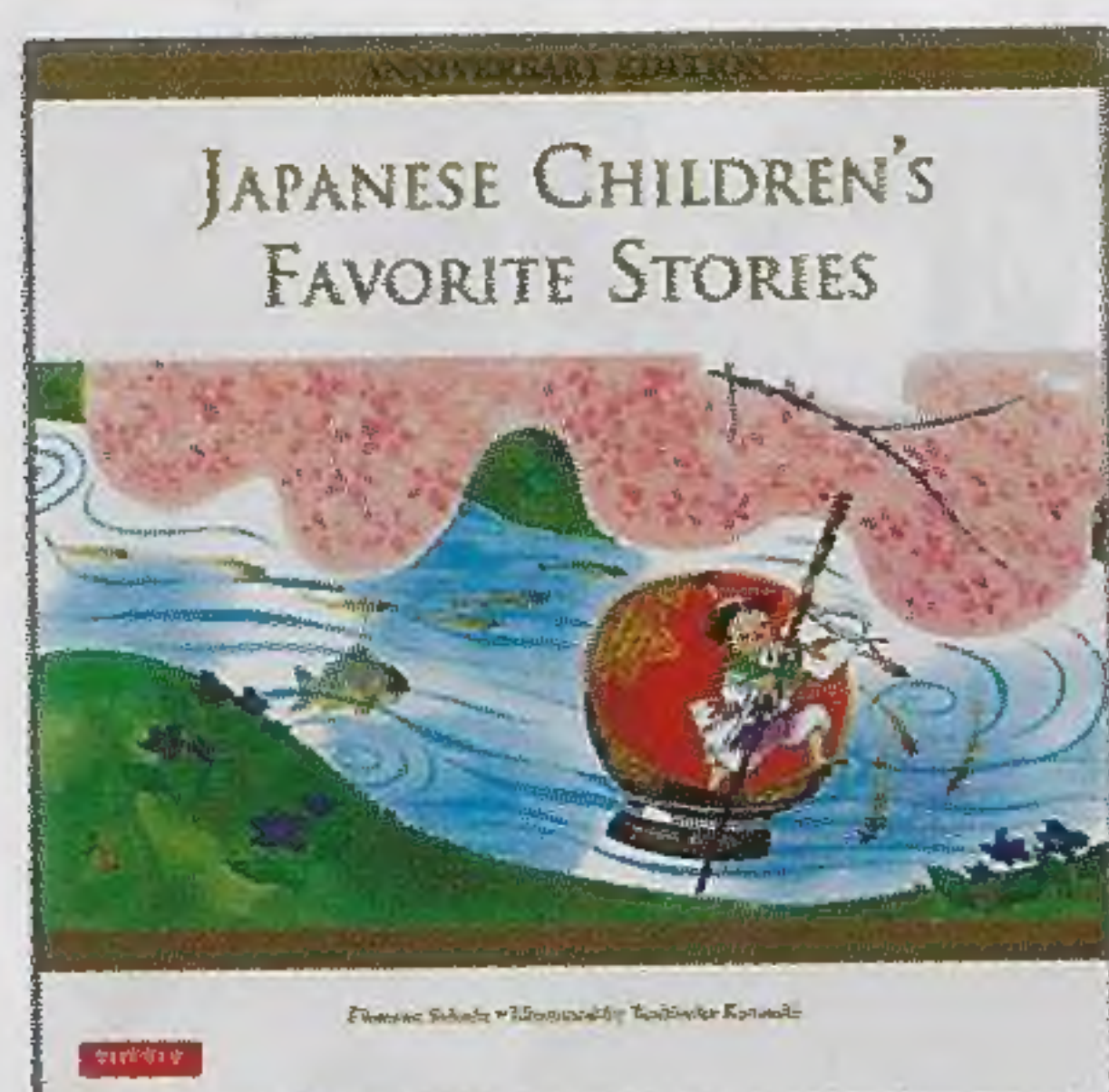
Colorful Tales from the Land of the Rising Sun

Japanese Children's Favorite Stories

By: Florence Sakade Illustrated by: Yoshisuke Kurosake

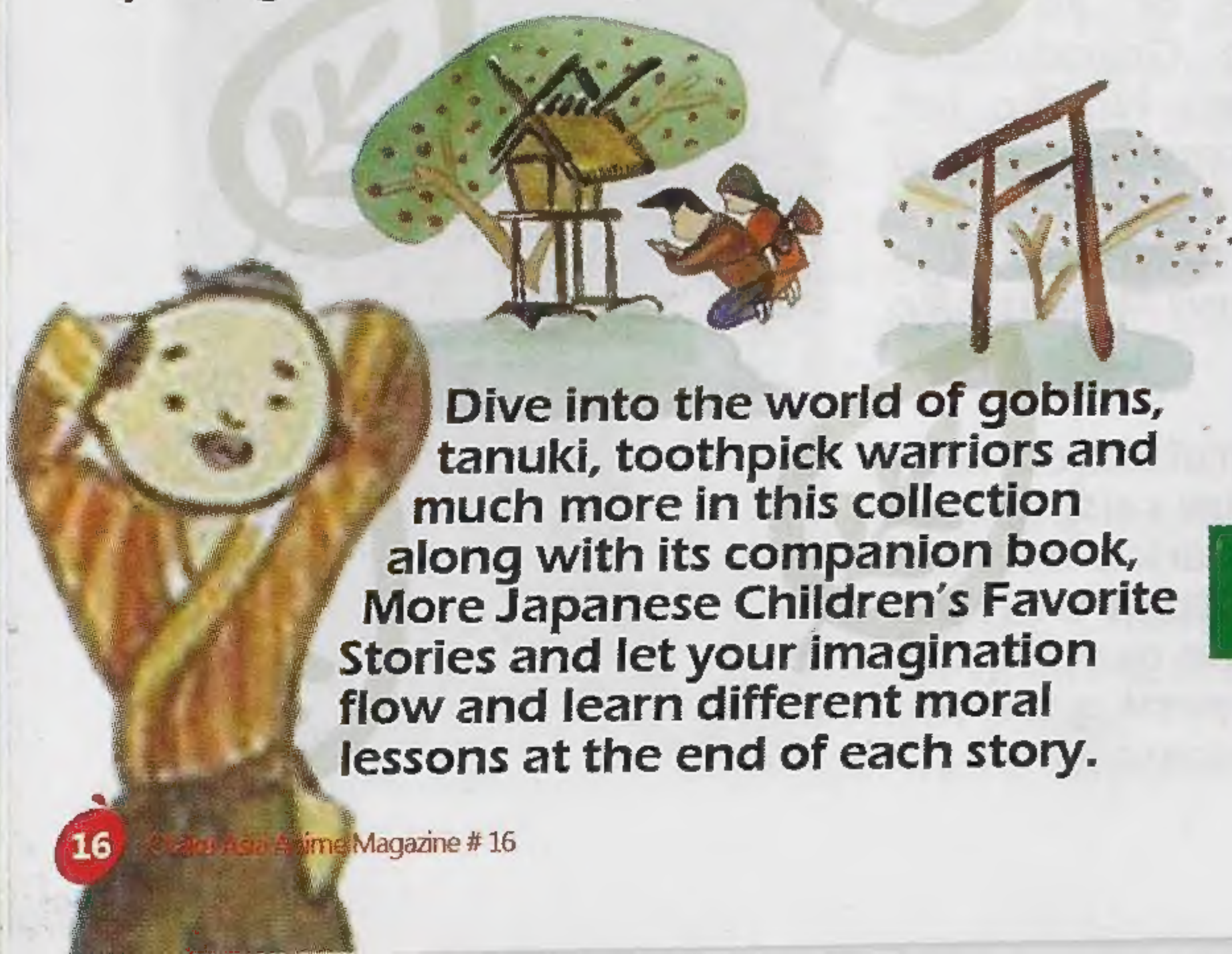
TUTTLE PUBLISHING

Listening or reading stories started being part of our lives back in our childhood years. It not only triggered our imaginations but also gave us lessons that we'll bring throughout our lives. Stories never fail to entertain people of all ages and this compilation of some of the Japanese culture's children's stories will be a nice addition to your reading experience.



Japanese Children's Favorite Stories is written by the widely recognized author and editor Florence Sakade who is known through her works such as A Guide to Reading and Writing Japanese and Origami: Japanese Paper Folding. This is a compilation of over 20 different Japanese most loved children's stories with each page made even more entertaining and fascinating through Yoshisuke Kurosake's Japanese style illustrations.

The stories are well chosen and well translated for different children readers. The illustrations included in each story add to its captivating effect to the readers. The stories are not that long in content as well but the quick run in the stories are enough to be entertained and to learn some more of the Japanese Culture. The stories also have the virtues of humor, kindness and honestly mixed with the stories of different protagonists and magical creatures.



Dive into the world of goblins, tanuki, toothpick warriors and much more in this collection along with its companion book, More Japanese Children's Favorite Stories and let your imagination flow and learn different moral lessons at the end of each story.

Contents:

Peach Boy
The Magic Teakettle
Monkey Dance and Sparrow Dance
The Long-Nosed Tengus
The Rabbit in the Moon
The Tongue-Cut Sparrow
Silly Saburo
The Toothpick Warriors
The Sticky-Sticky Pine
The Spider Weaver
Little One-Inch
The Tanuki and the Magic Fan
Mr. Lucky Straw
Why the Jellyfish Has No Bones
The Old Man Who Made Trees Blossom
The Crab and the Monkey
The Ogre and the Rooster
The Rabbit Who Crossed the Sea
The Grateful Statues
The Bobtail Monkey



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SUPER HARD

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Gift-Giving - Thoughts and Efforts

by Ann

"It's the thought that counts." Gifts are one of the most-awaited parts of the Christmas season, and in Japan, this tradition has become even more a part of their culture. But before you make your way to the shopping center, here are some tips to guide you with the dos and don'ts of Japanese gift-giving!

Buy items that have both red and green colors because they represent the common colors for Christmas. Take caution not to give red Christmas cards or anything red by itself because this is commonly used in funerals.

Don't give lilies, lotus blossoms, camellias, or any white flowers because they remind people about funerals. In addition to that, potted plants are also not recommended because they represent sickness.

Next, don't give things in four or nine because they are considered to be bad luck. These numbers are represented in the same characters that are used to denote "death."

Once you've chosen what your gift is, it's time to decide how you will wrap it. Most of the time, it is best to use wrappers with pastel colors as oppose to bright colors because they are easier on the eyes. While you can place your gift inside a shopping bag, it still has to be wrapped so that it won't easily be seen.

Now, getting the gift ready does not end the process of the Japanese gift-giving process. In fact, it is in the act of giving that makes this tradition stand out. When giving gifts to people, the Japanese always give their gifts with both hands. They might also be heard saying that it's not much to show that the relationship is indeed more valuable than the material thing. Furthermore, this shows humility that better bonds two people.

But what should you do when you receive gifts? First of all, you have an option to reject the offer. It is a common tradition for the Japanese to reject a gift at least twice and accept on the third time it is offered. Again, this portrays humility, as if to tell the giver that you are more interested in your relationship.

Then, once you've received the gift, don't open it just yet. Gifts are commonly opened in private so that in any case that you didn't like what you got, the giver will not see your disappointment. This would be too embarrassing and can cause the giver to lose confidence.



With respect to the beliefs of others and being sensitive to their feelings, one can make both the giver and the receiver encourage a harmonious relationship that is fostered not by material things but by genuine concern and valuable thought. Thought counts but efforts matter too. Enjoy the gift-giving season!



During Kawaii in Manila 2, the media partners were given a box of 3 cookies and it was delicious! So we thought this season will be the perfect time to promote the local and online shop that is LOVE, AGNESSI.

From the name itself, you would know that the product is made from love and care. Love, Agnessi is the pastry shop of cookie lover sisters, Agnes and Carla Ong who started back in November 2012 launched an online shop on Facebook.

They sell 5 flavors of cookies in a box of 14 pcs:

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450	Peanut Butter & Chocolate
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Delivery Options

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* Thursdays - 12:30 to 1:30pm at Bonifacio High Street (near Jamba Juice)

* Saturdays - 1:00 to 2:00pm at BF Paranaque (near PCJ Starbucks)

Look for the red maroon "COOKIES" cap!

Special Delivery (For specific location and date)

* Additional fee: Minimum of Php 100 for specific Metro Manila Areas (e.g. Makati, San Juan, Manila, Mandaluyong, Pasig, Pasay, Taguig, QC and Marikina). This is only applicable for 1-2 boxes.

* Delivery fee may vary for other areas (e.g. Fairview, Commonwealth, Novaliches & etc.) and number of orders.

Payment Method

* For meet ups, you may pay upon meet up.

* For deliveries, please deposit your payment to our BPI account* and send us a scanned copy of deposit slip at least a day before delivery date for confirmation.

*BPI account will be given to you upon confirmation of order

Order Form

1. Full Name
2. Contact Info
3. Flavor and No. of Orders
4. Meet Up or Delivery
 - a. Date
 - b. Location



They use safe and fresh ingredients for the health and safety of each cookie. Upon opening a box, each cookie is packed in plastic to seal in its yumminess and freshness. The box also has a label of its baking date and expiry date.

This is a great gift idea and for sharing with friends and officemates!

Their cookies are scrumptious, sweet and delicious! They will surely be full of orders for Christmas so why not place an order now?



OTAKUGOODIES

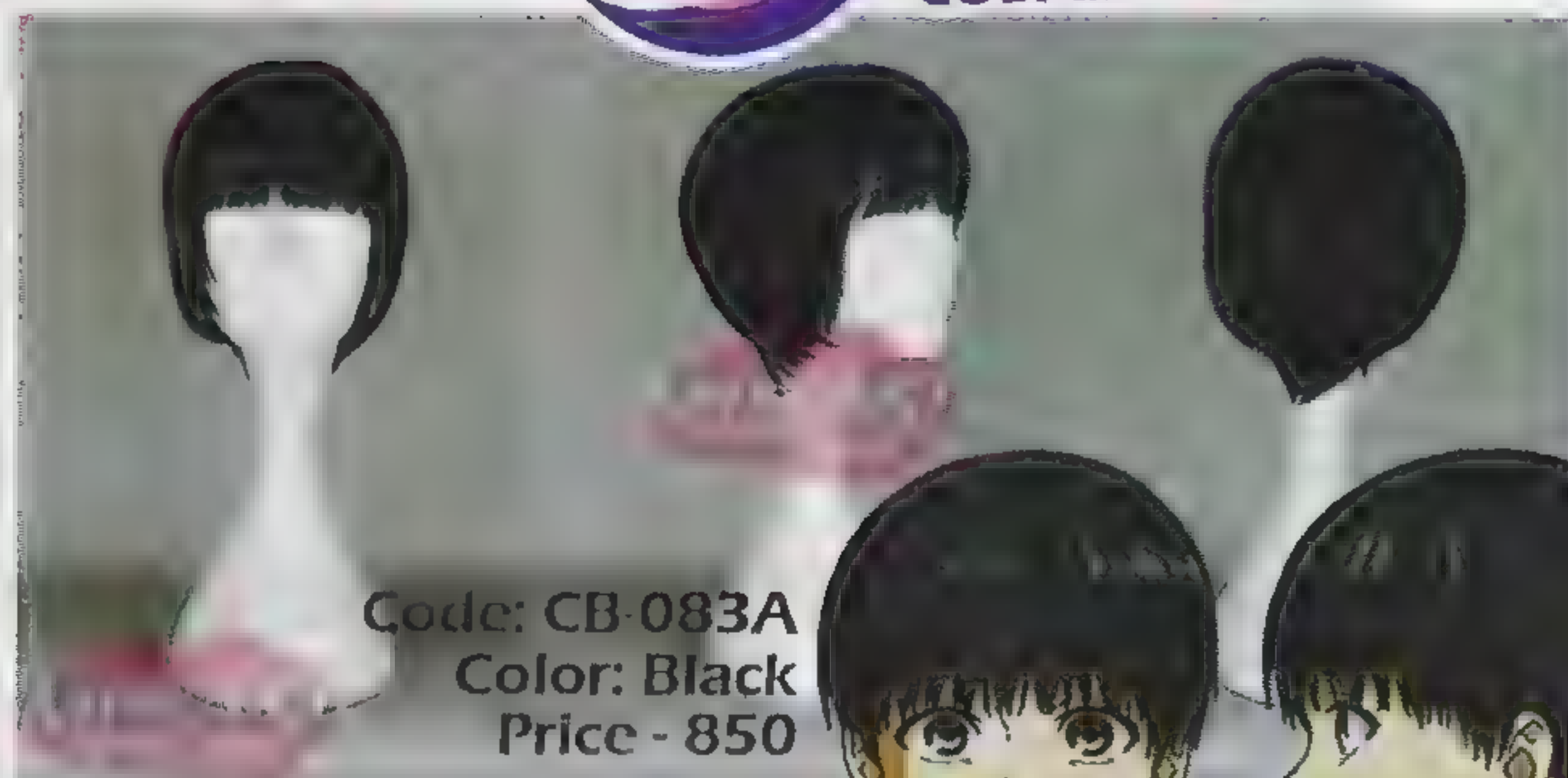


Cosmic BYTES
COSPLAY SHOP

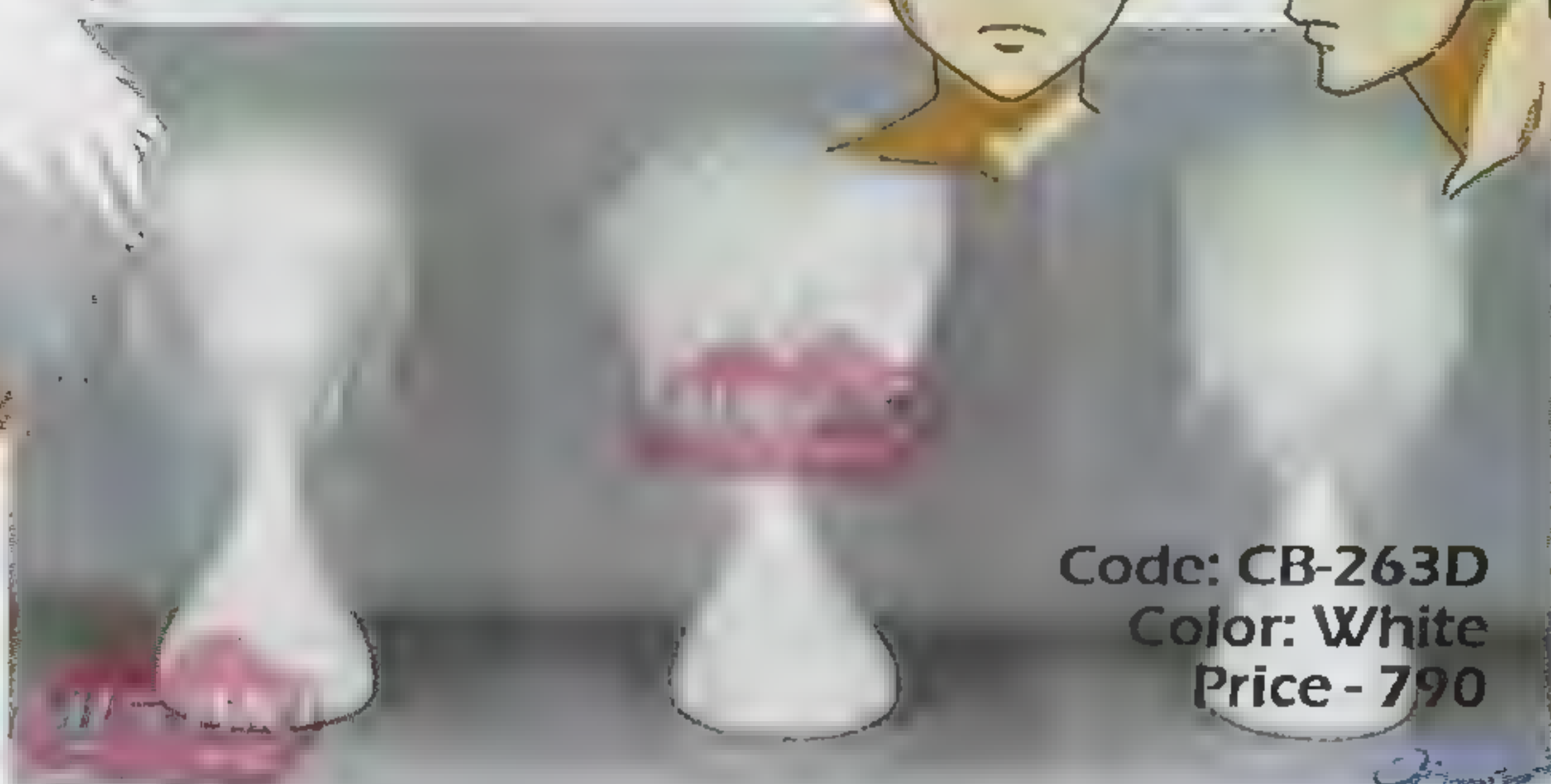
For all your cosplay needs

Are you a cosplayer? Are you friends with one? Maybe they need new wigs! Cosmic Bytes is here all year to help you out with that!

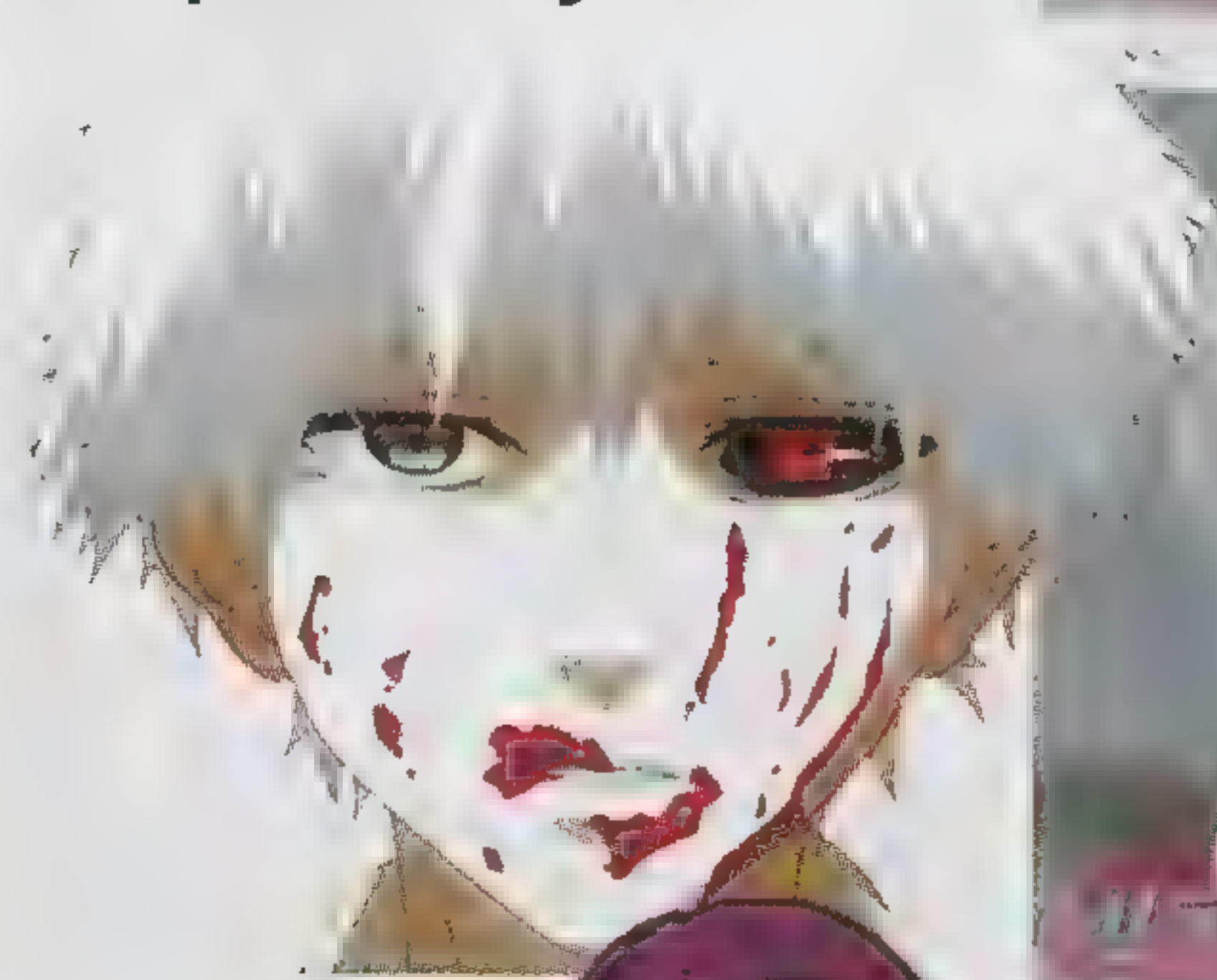
A good wig is the best way to say "this character is perfect for you".



Code: CB-083A
Color: Black
Price - 850



Code: CB-263D
Color: White
Price - 790



Code: G05
Color: Maroon
Price - 90

Browse their wigs on their web page: cosmicbytes.com

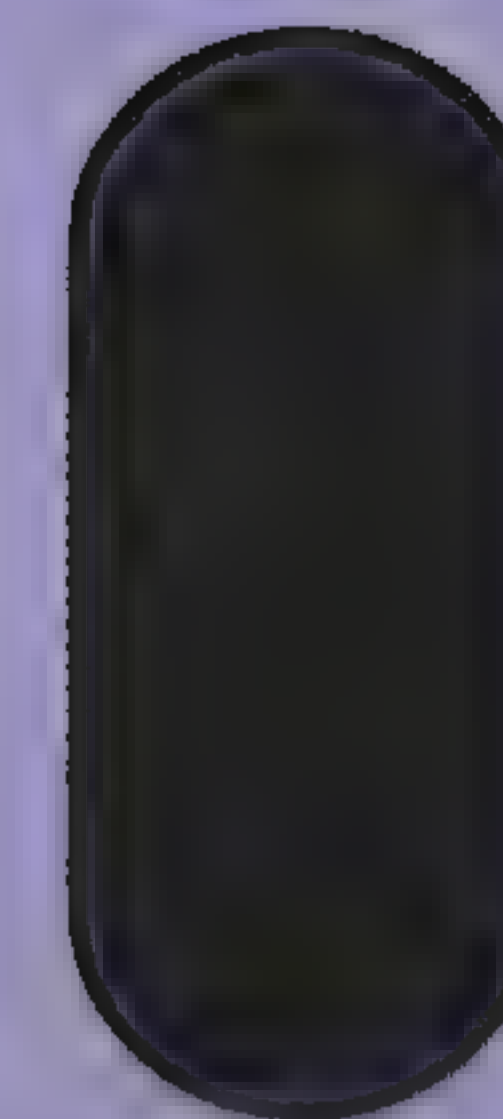
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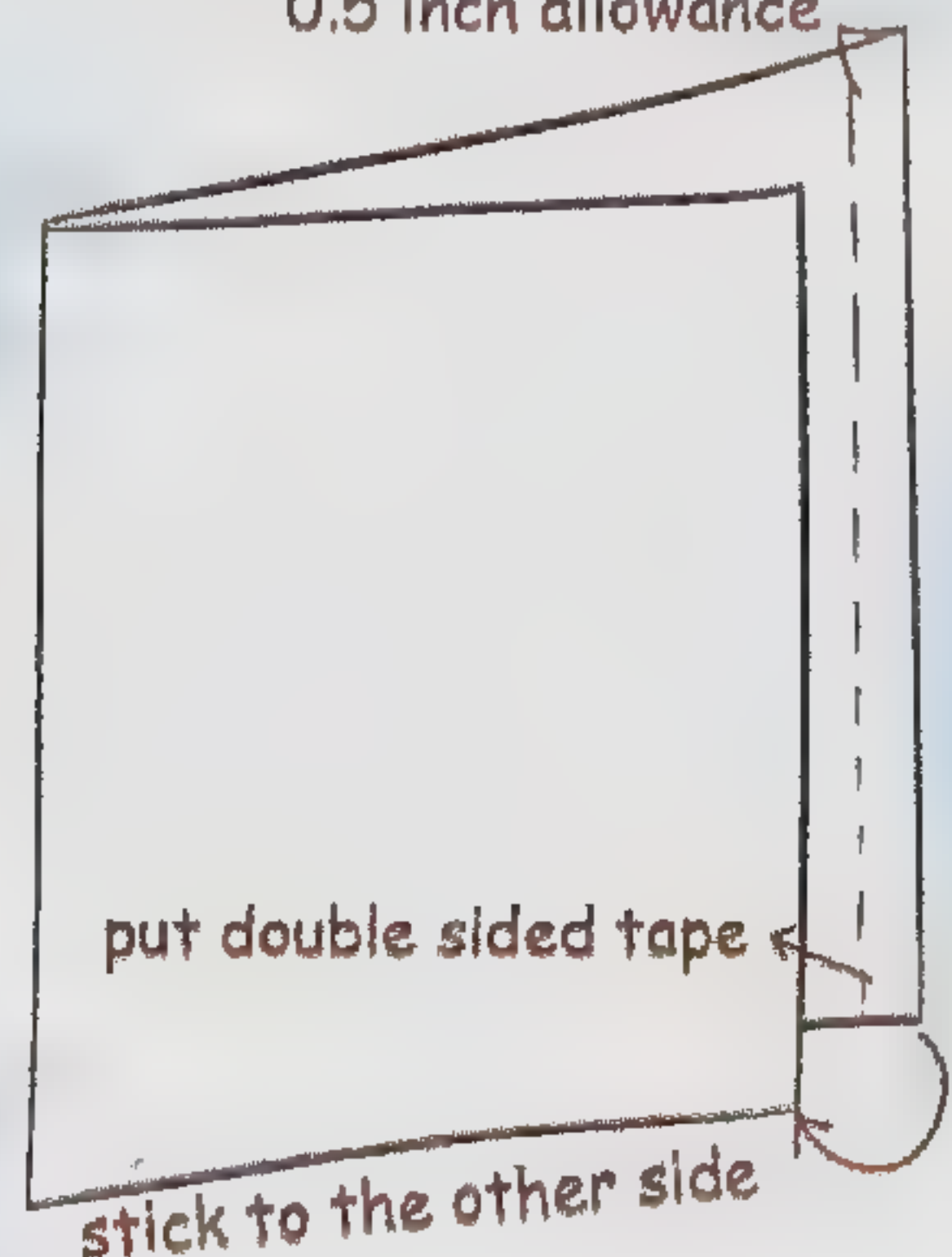
MATERIALS:

- * Paper of your choice (cartolina, manila paper, posters, etc)
- * half inch double sided tape
- * string/chord for handle
- * ruler
- * pencil

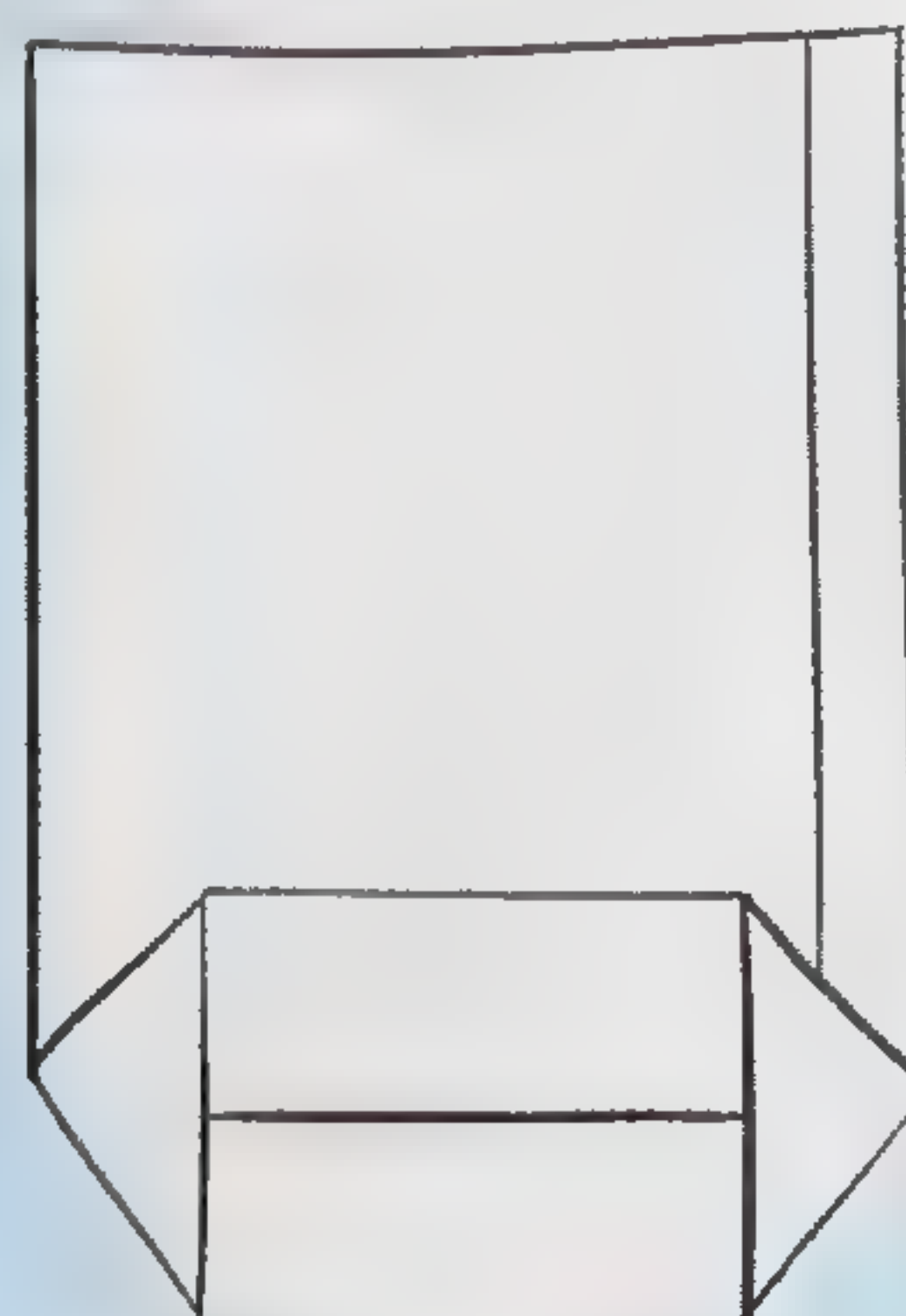
PROCEDURE:

1. At the right side of the paper, make an allowance of .5 inches then fold in at the center. carefully place the double sided tape on the allowance part then stick on the other end.

0.5 inch allowance



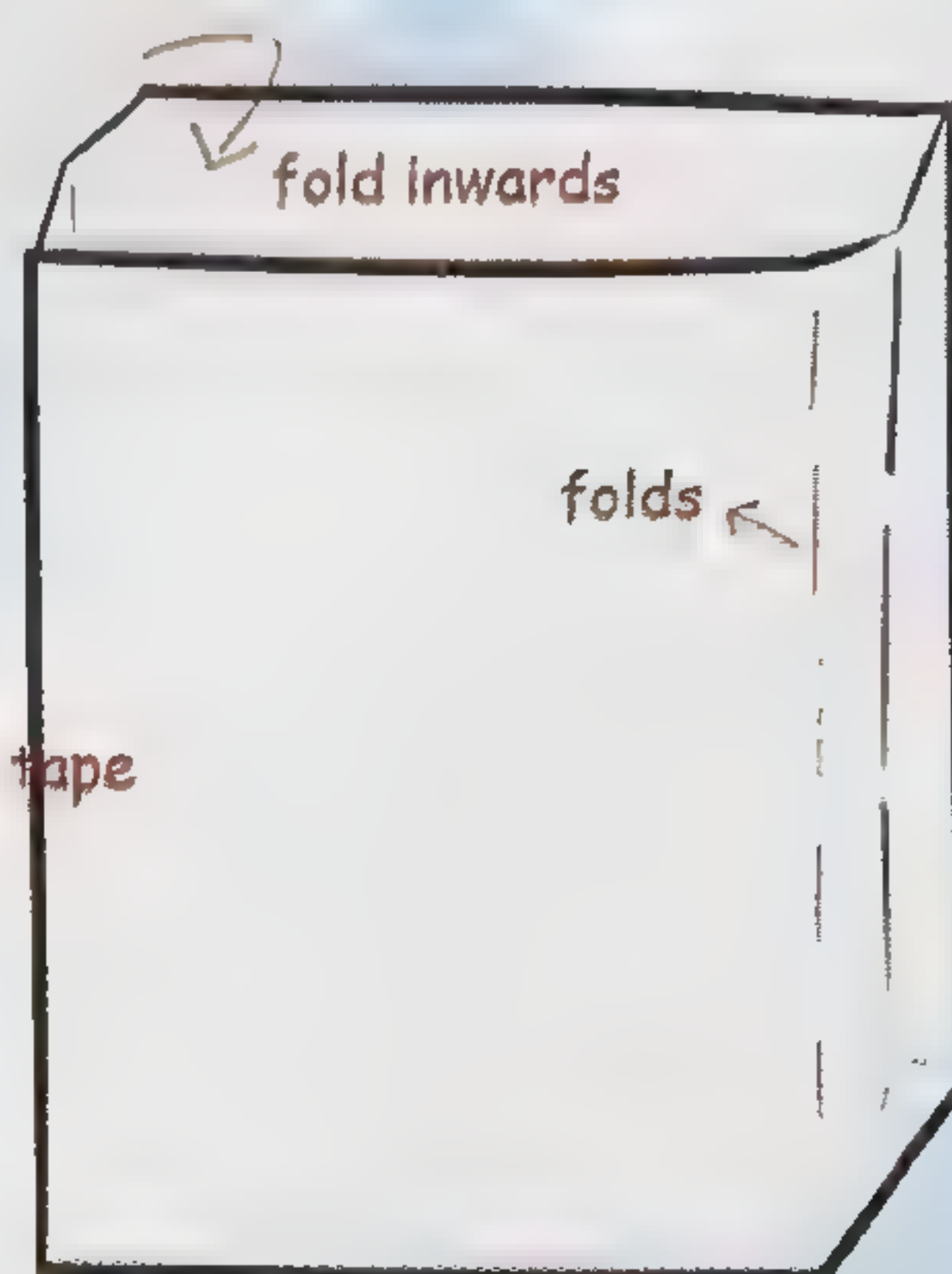
2. On the lower part of the paper fold at least 3 inches then fold it similar with the image below.



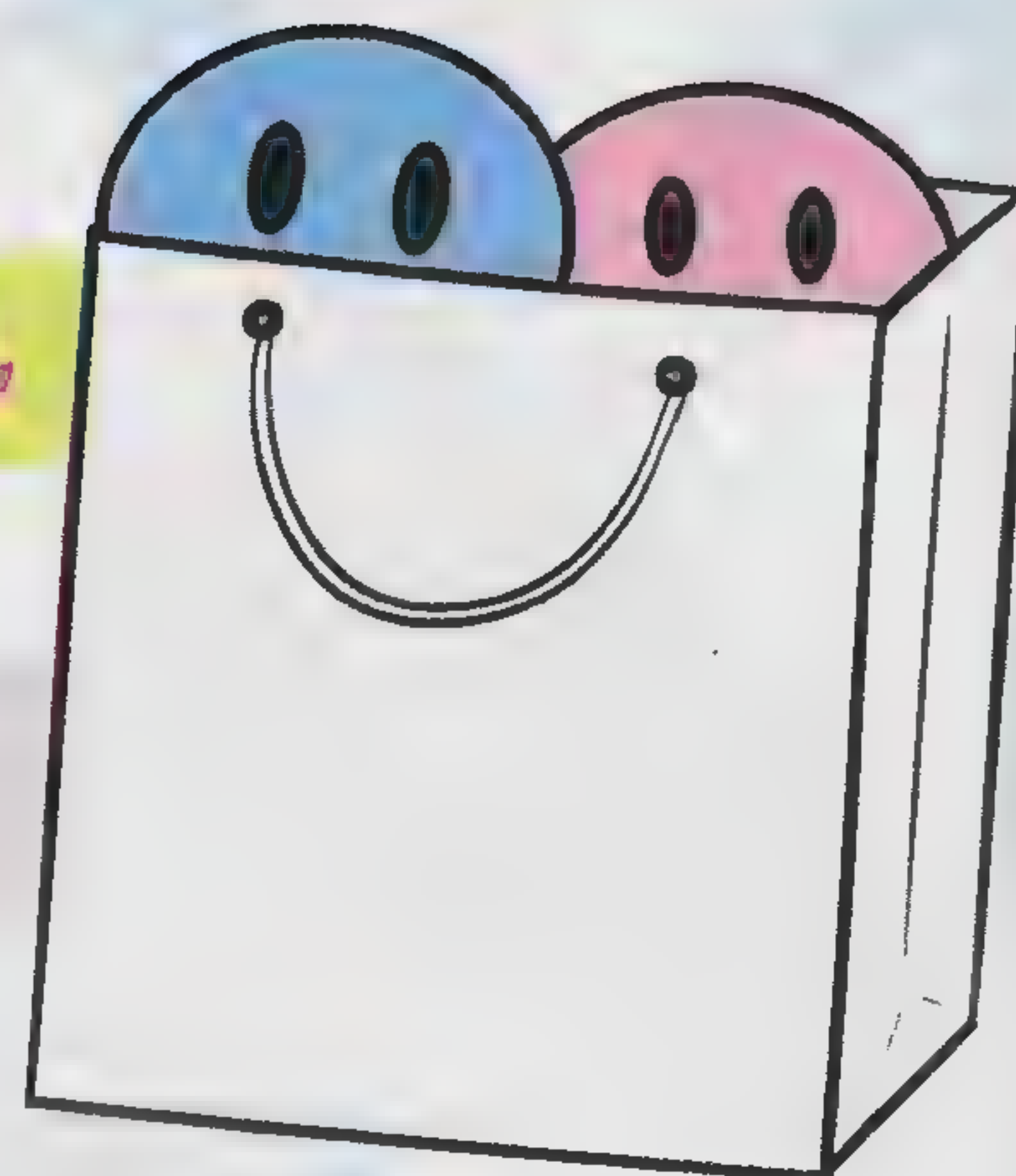
3. Fold the lower part into the center part with an allowance of 0.5 inches to give space for the double sided tape.



put double sided tape



4. Put folds similar with the picture above on 4 sides. Then fold onwards at least 1.5 inch and lastly, put holes for the string/chord similar at the image below.



SANTA HAT TUTORIAL

MATERIALS:

- * red cloth of your choice
- * red thread
- * fur
- * scissors
- * measuring tape
- * cloth marker

PROCEDURE:

1. Cut a 23.5 inch x 23.5 inch red cloth. Then fold it at the center going to the right side downward. Put pins to prevent the cloth from moving. (Make sure that the front/top part is inside the fold.)



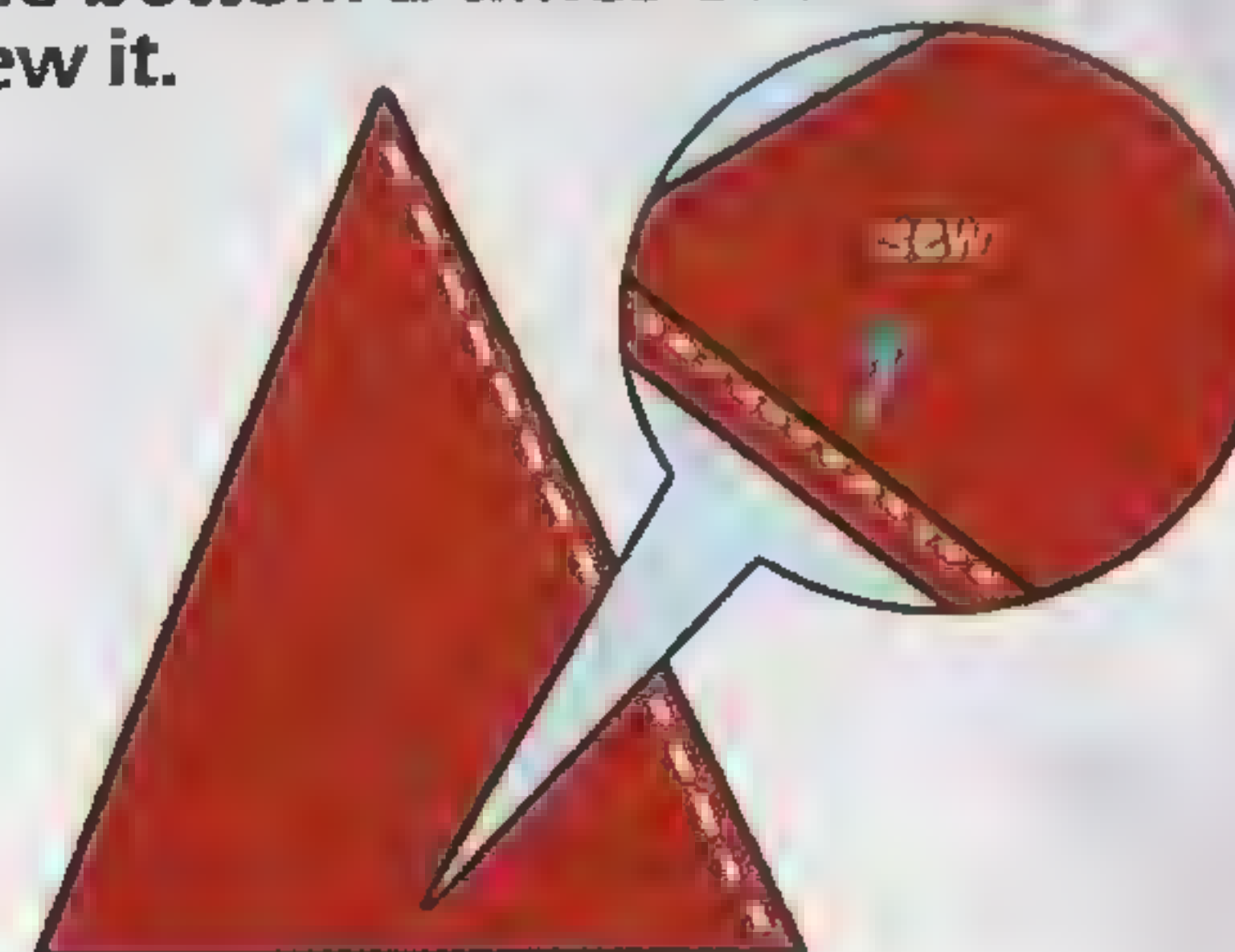
2. At the left side of the cloth, starting from the top, measure 23.5 inches then put a mark.



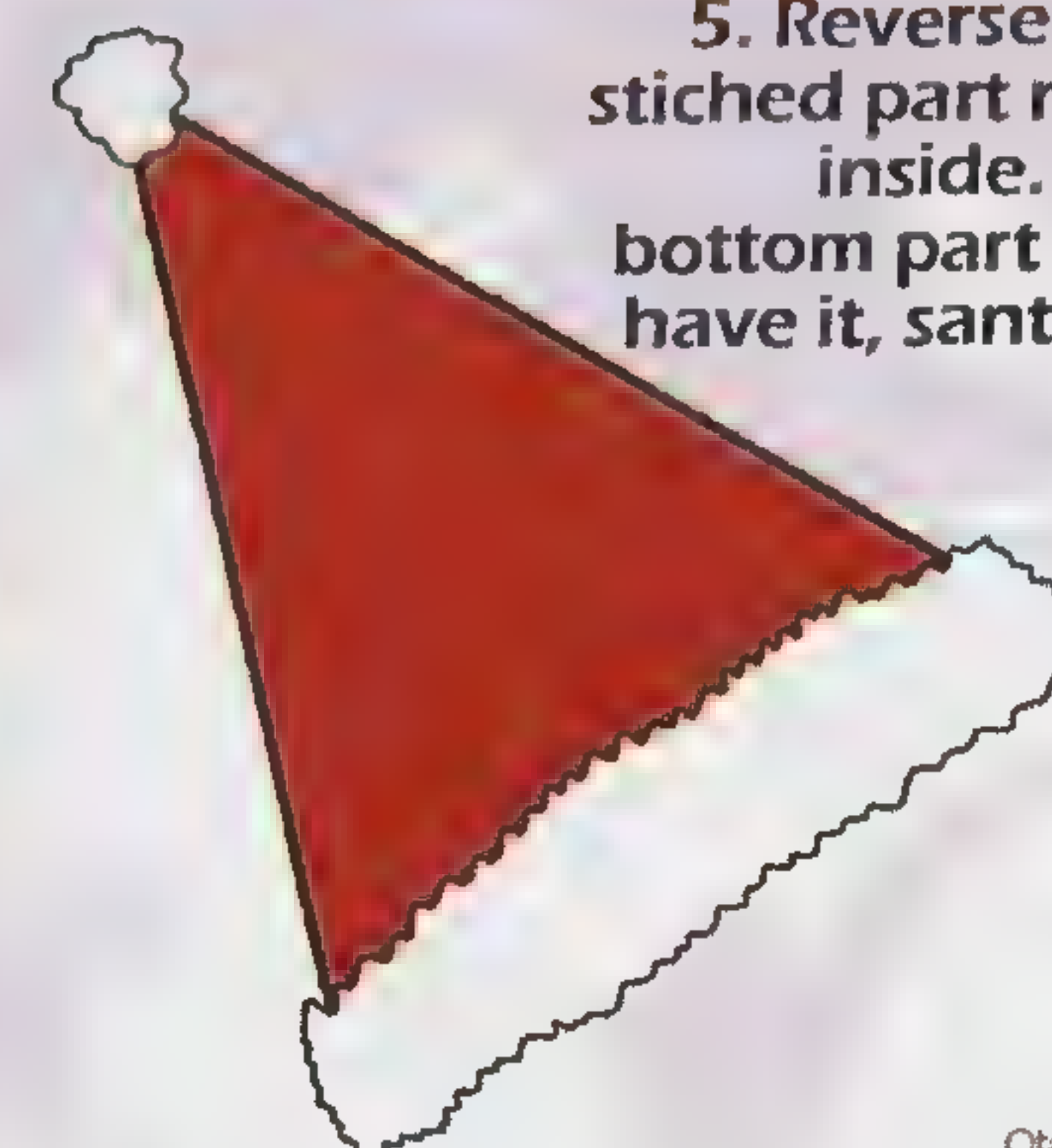
3. Put another mark here then cut the excess.



4. Sew the open part at the right side. Then fold the open part at the bottom 2 times outwards then sew it.



5. Reverse the cloth. The stiched part now should be inside. Sew the fur at bottom part and there you have it, santa hat made by yourself.



EGGNOGIN

Eggnog might not be a Christmas tradition in Japan but it's a good drink nonetheless. It is made of milk, sugar and whipped eggs and can be spiked with sweet alcohol such as brandy and rum (optional). There has been a health debate regarding the use of raw eggs so we recommend you to wash the shell before cracking the egg and also check the egg's freshness.

After that is done, we start mixing!

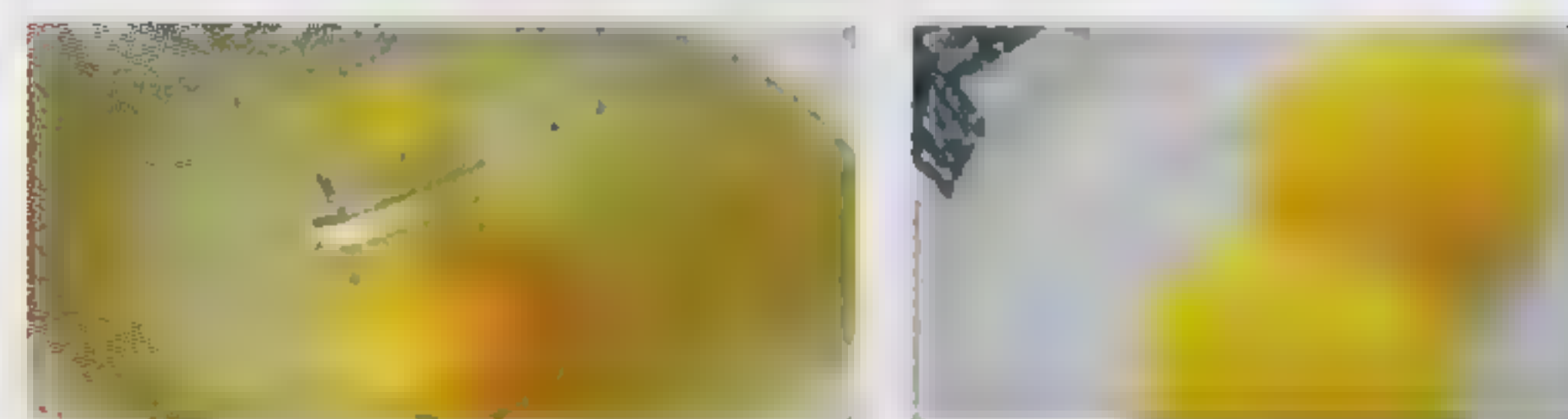
INGREDIENTS:

- 6 room temperature eggs
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- fresh grated nutmeg
- 3 cups whipping cream, chilled
- 2 cups whole milk

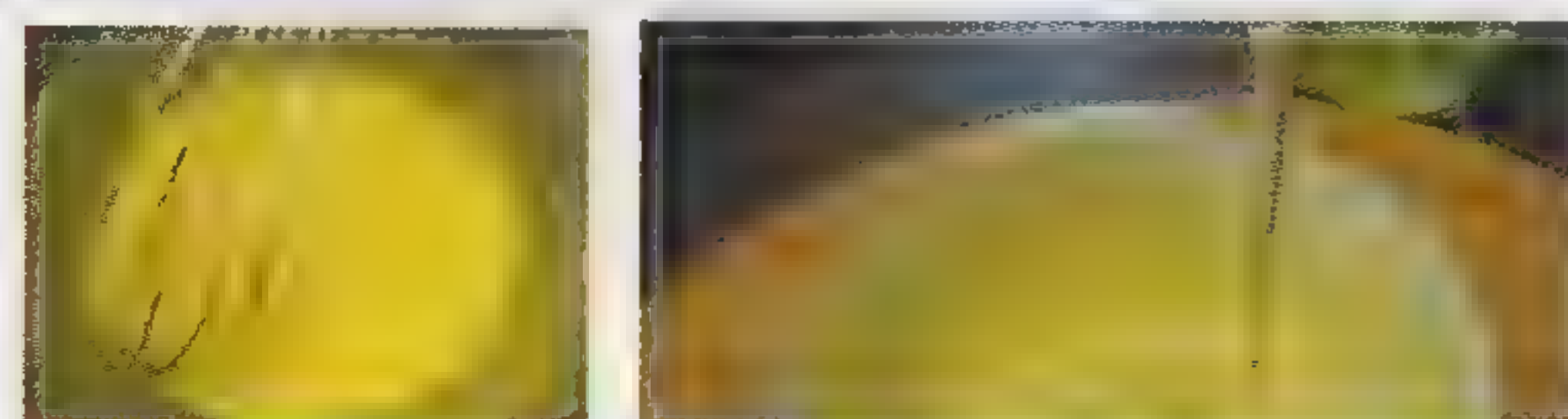
PROCEDURE:



Separate yolks and whites. The easiest way would be to use an empty water bottle.



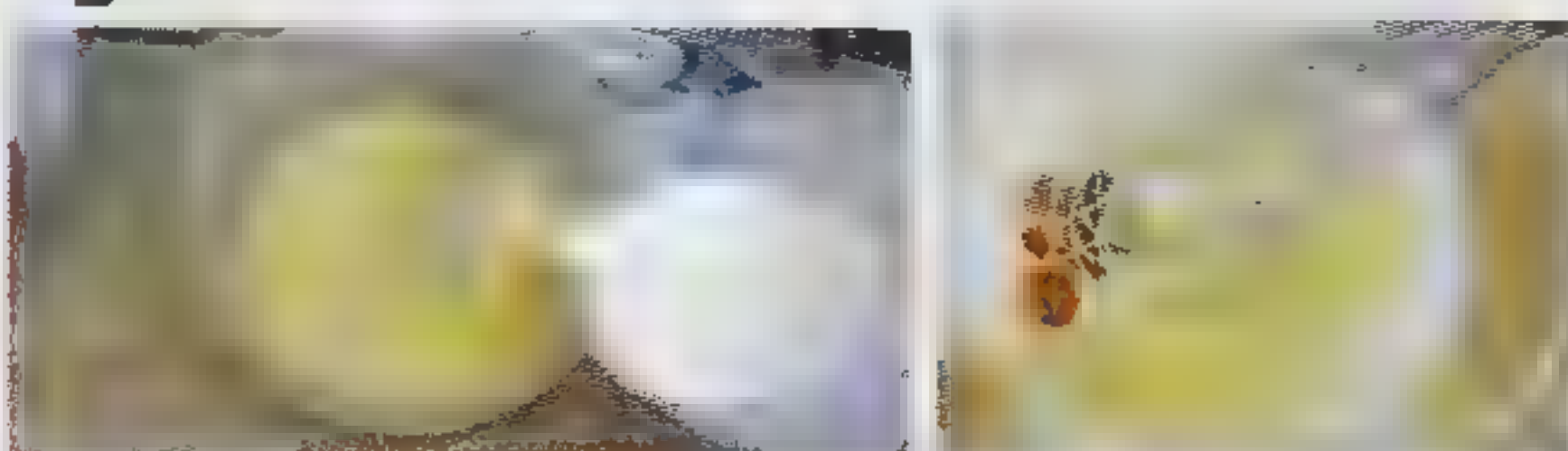
Set the whites aside while you beat the yolks till it's thick.



Add sugar to the yolk. Keep on beating till light.



Slowly stir in the milk, vanilla and the cream. Beat again.



This time, beat the egg whites into a fluff cloud.



Fold the two mixtures into a large bowl.



Pour the mixture into mugs.



Sprinkle grated nutmeg on each mug.

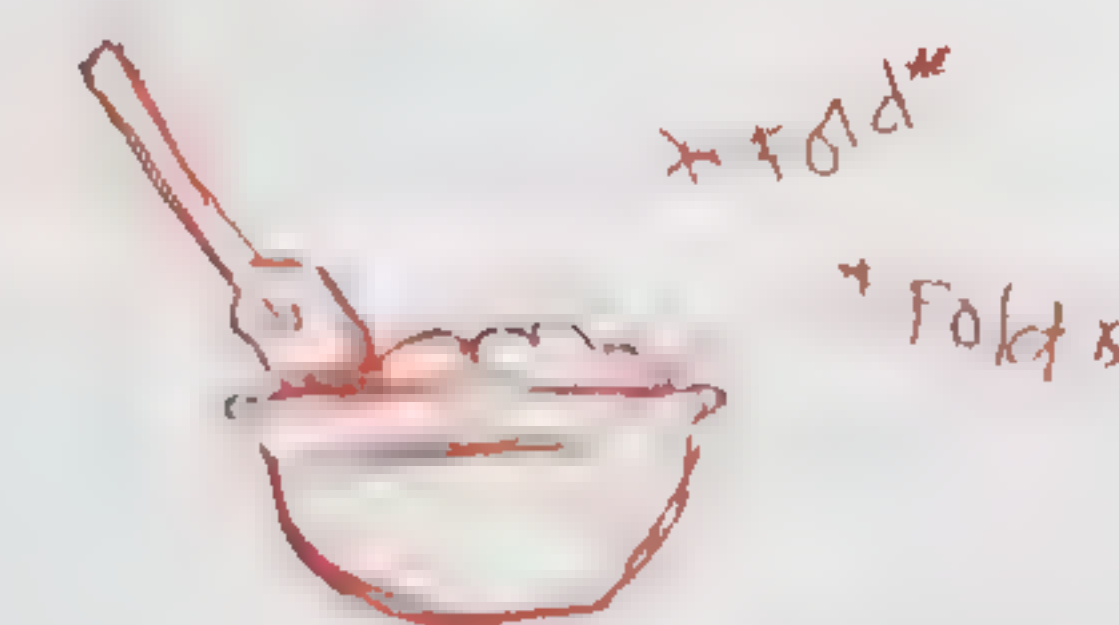
Enjoy~

When you hear Eggnog, I bet you were thinging of this:



Eggnog cookies was the snack of the hungry and the tired. We don't know if this is still in the market but we sure miss this snack.

If you've made your homemade eggnog, make sure to tell us in our FB page or twitter! Merry Christmas!



Nutrition Facts

Eggnog

Amount Per 100 grams

Calories 88

	% Daily Value*
Total Fat 4.2 g	6%
Saturated fat 2.6 g	13%
Polyunsaturated fat 0.2 g	
Monounsaturated fat 1.3 g	
Cholesterol 59 mg	19%
Sodium 54 mg	2%
Potassium 165 mg	4%
Total Carbohydrate 8 g	2%
Dietary fiber 0 g	0%
Sugar 8 g	
Protein 4.6 g	9%
Vitamin A 4%	Vitamin C 2%
Calcium 13%	Iron 1%
Vitamin D 12%	Vitamin B-6 0%
Vitamin B-12 6%	Magnesium 4%

*Per cent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

source: wikipedia (eggnog), USDA



HOOKED BOOK

by Ren

More Colorful Tales from the Land of the Rising Sun

More Japanese Children's Favorite Stories

By: Florence Sakade

Illustrated by: Yoshisuke Kurosake

TUTTLE PUBLISHING

Reading books back in our childhood years introduced us to different cultures and also invited us to open and use our imaginations. This also gave way to make reading as a hobby and one of the good ways to teach children moral lessons.



More Japanese Children's Favorite Stories is a companion volume to Florence's Sakade's Japanese Children's Favorite Stories which features more stories for you to enjoy. The pages are also filled with the renowned illustrator, Yoshisuke Kurosake's drawings to make your reading experience more captivating and enjoyable. Both volumes have been delighting English-speaking children around the world for 60 years now with stories filled with Japanese creatures and different heroes to teach readers moral lessons in life.

Like its companion volume, the stories are also well chosen and well translated. This delightful collection mixes magic, heart and common sense in every story included. Along with its companion volume, the readers are sure to find love in the different stories and will have a hard time to choose their top story.



Contents:

The Magic Mortar
How to Fool a Cat
The Dragon's Tears
The Rolling Mochi Cakes
The Robe of Feathers
The Princess and the Herdboy
Urashima Taro
The Fairy Cane
The Old Man with a Man
The Flying Farmer
Why the Red Elf Cried
The Biggest in the World
The Sandal Seller
The Singing Turtle
Saburo the Eel Catcher
Kintaro's Adventures

Explore the story of Urashima Taro, Kintaro, singing turtles, flying farmers and more along with its companion book, Japanese Children's Favorite Stories and be fascinated with the different stories for children made by the Japanese.



THE SWORD MASTER

WHERE PROPS LOOK LIKE
REAL WEAPONS



**Passion
for
Passion**

ACCEPTS MTO:
-SWORDS
-ARMORS
-WANDS
& MANY MORE

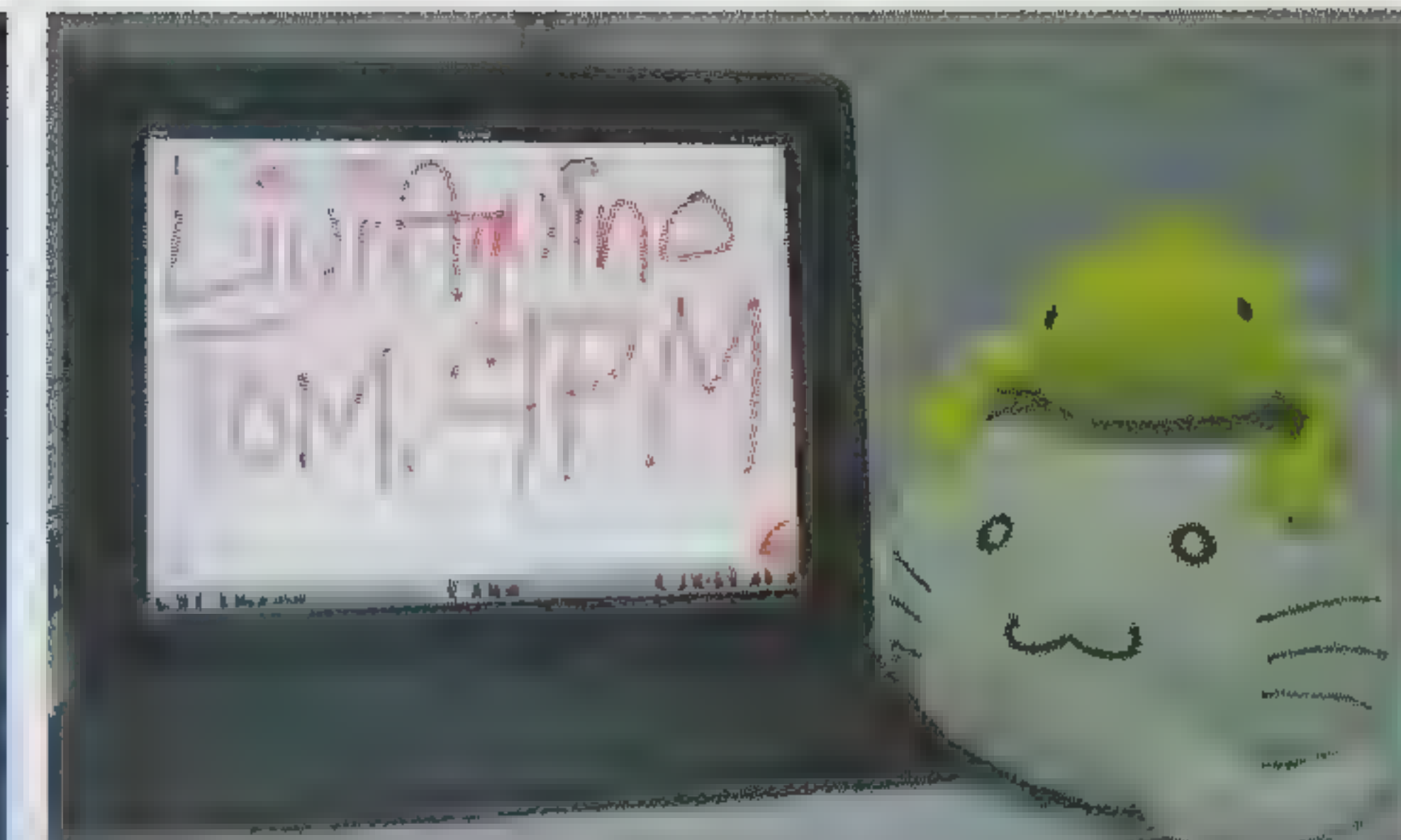
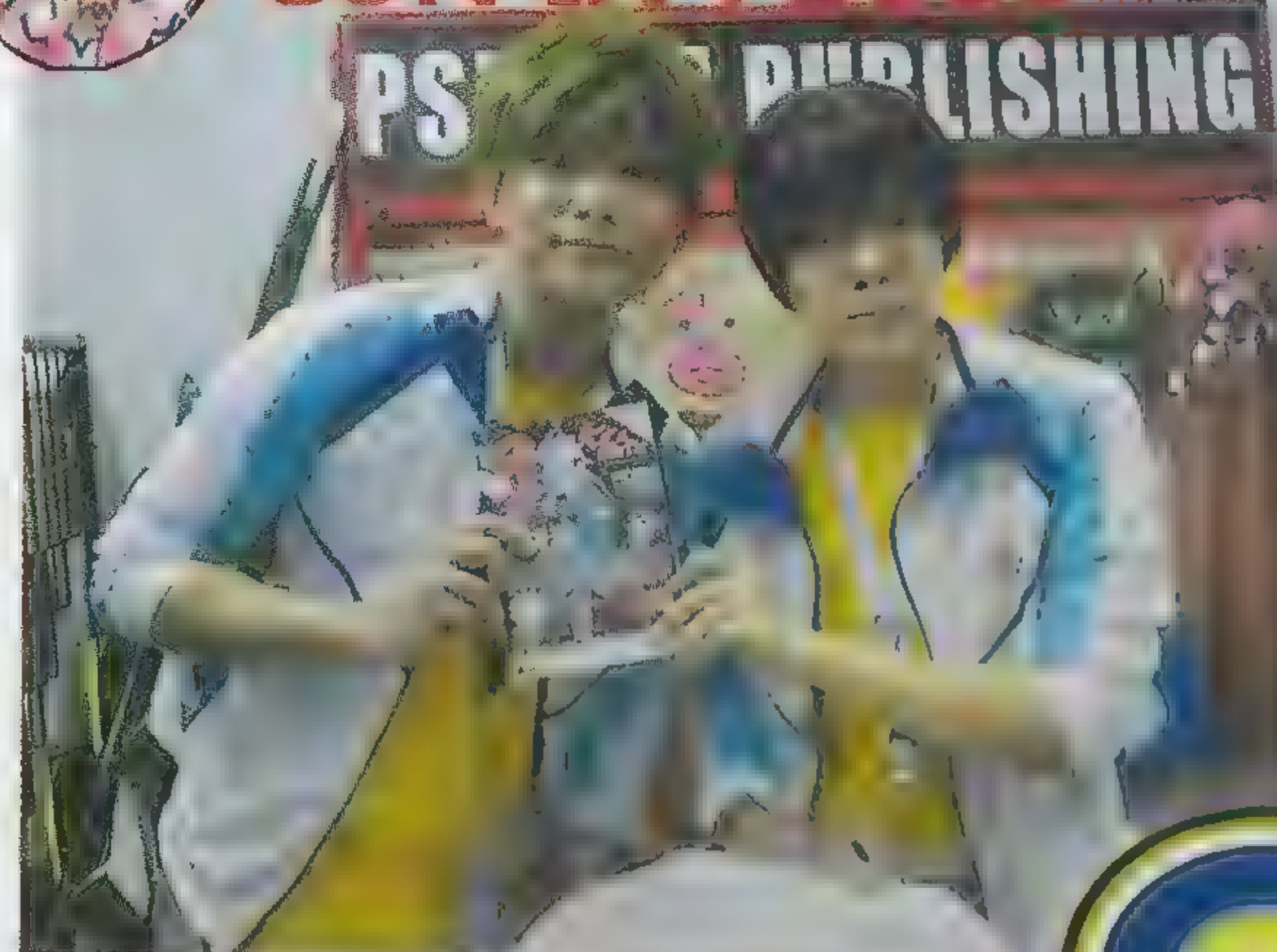
Owner: Miko Garcia

facebook.com/TheSwordMasters
twitter.com/TheSwordMaster
0935 665 6760





CON-IN-FOCUS



COSPLAY '14 MANIA EVOLUTION



clockwise from left: Miguel and Jin Joson in the Otaku Asia booth, Moonspeak with Reika and Kaname, our on-site announcement of Liui's magazine signing, TORCH team I-like, Wakfu booth display, Loverin Tamburin free entrance meet-and-greet, GreatToysOnline booth display, Embassy of Japan booth display

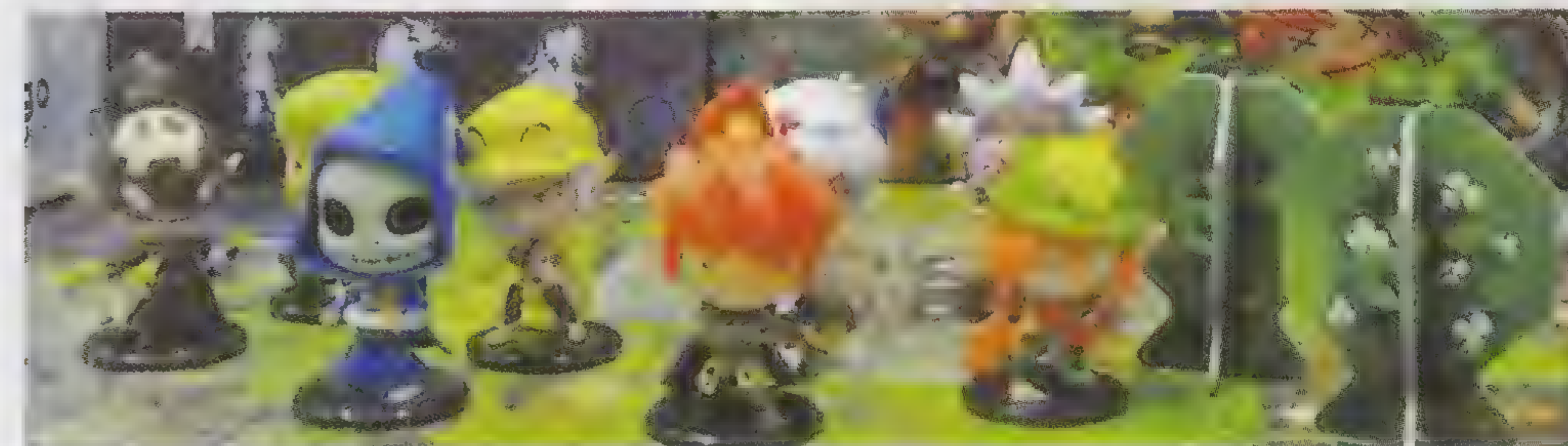
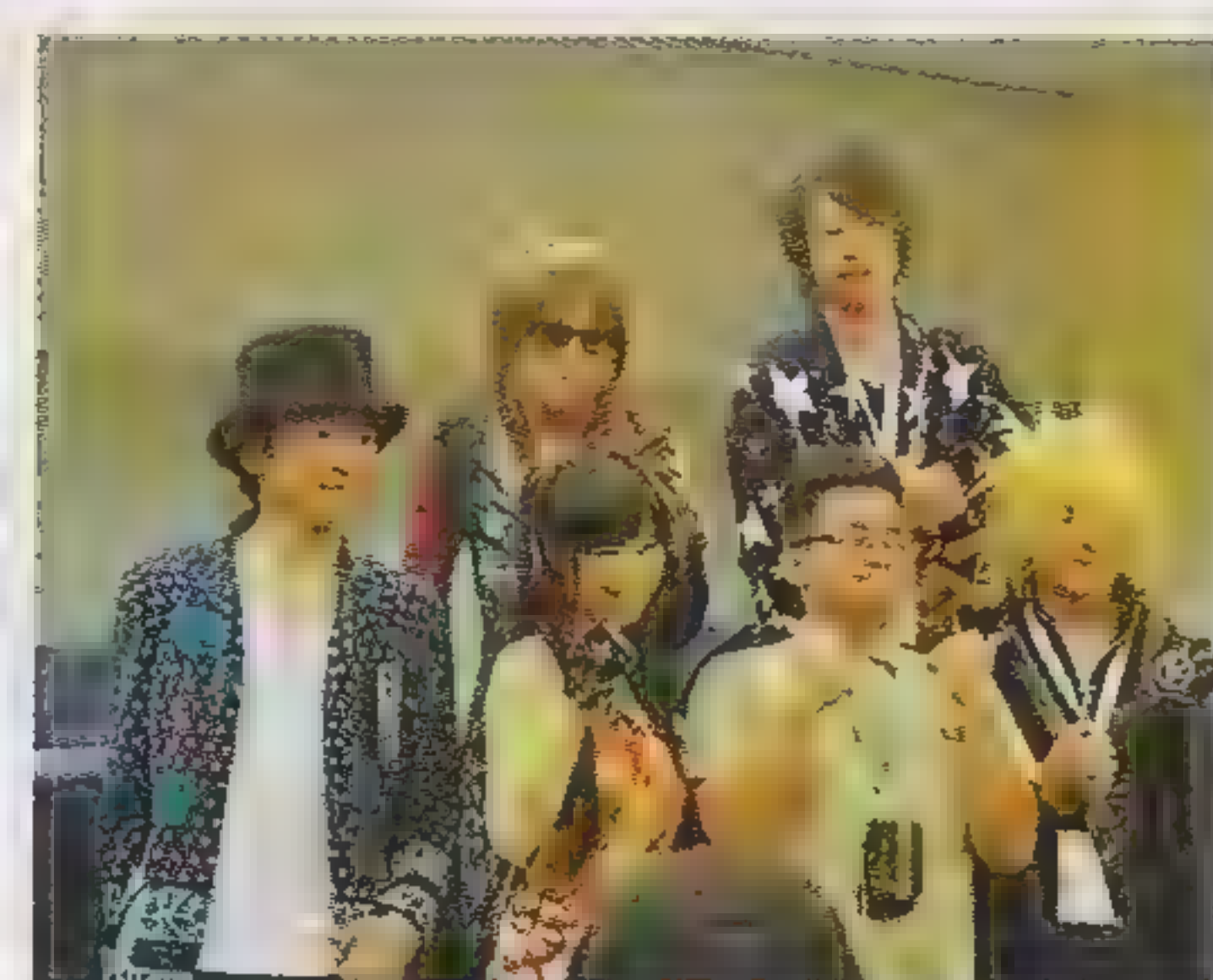
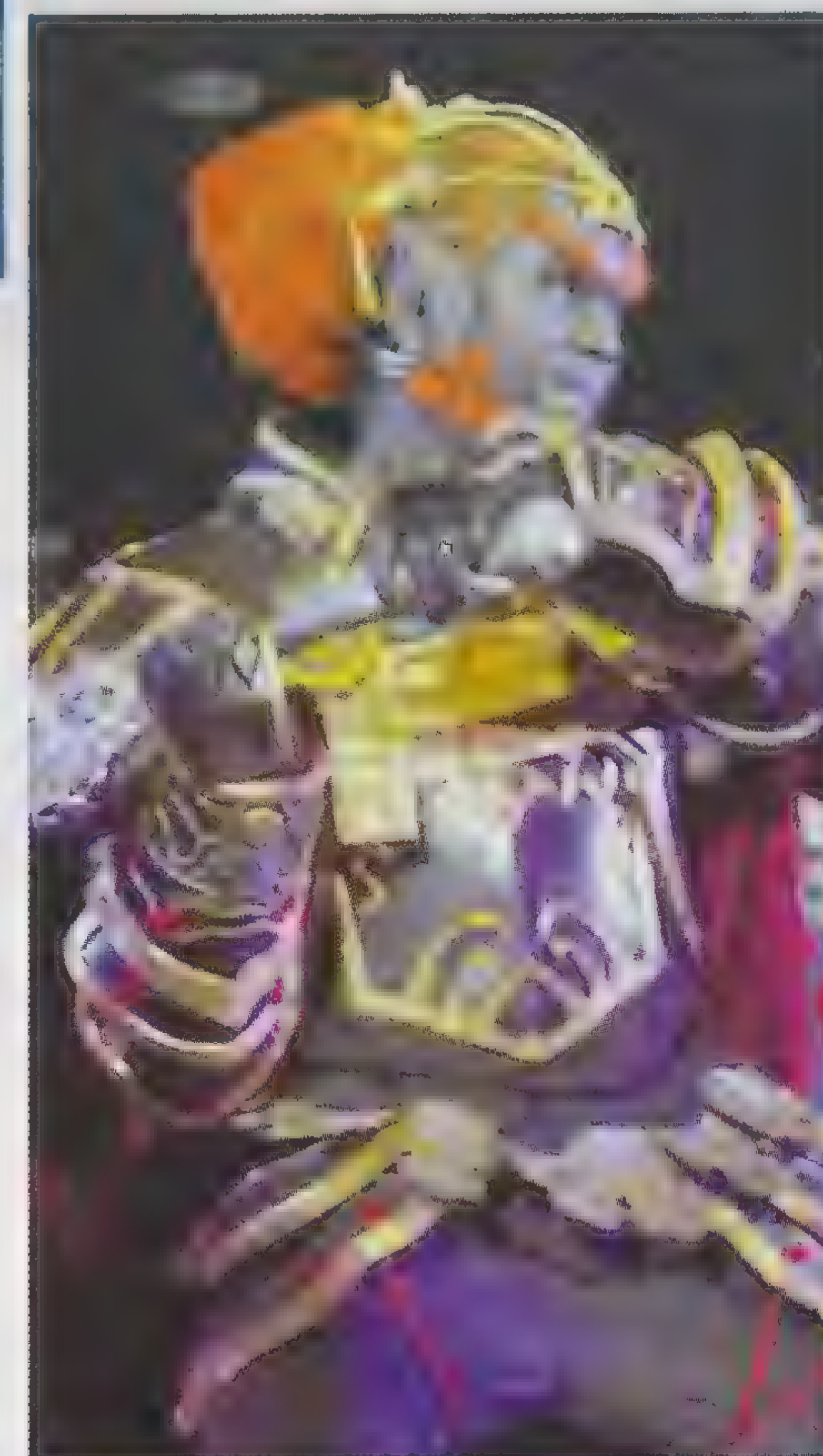
Evolution is a process in which something passes by degrees to a different stage.

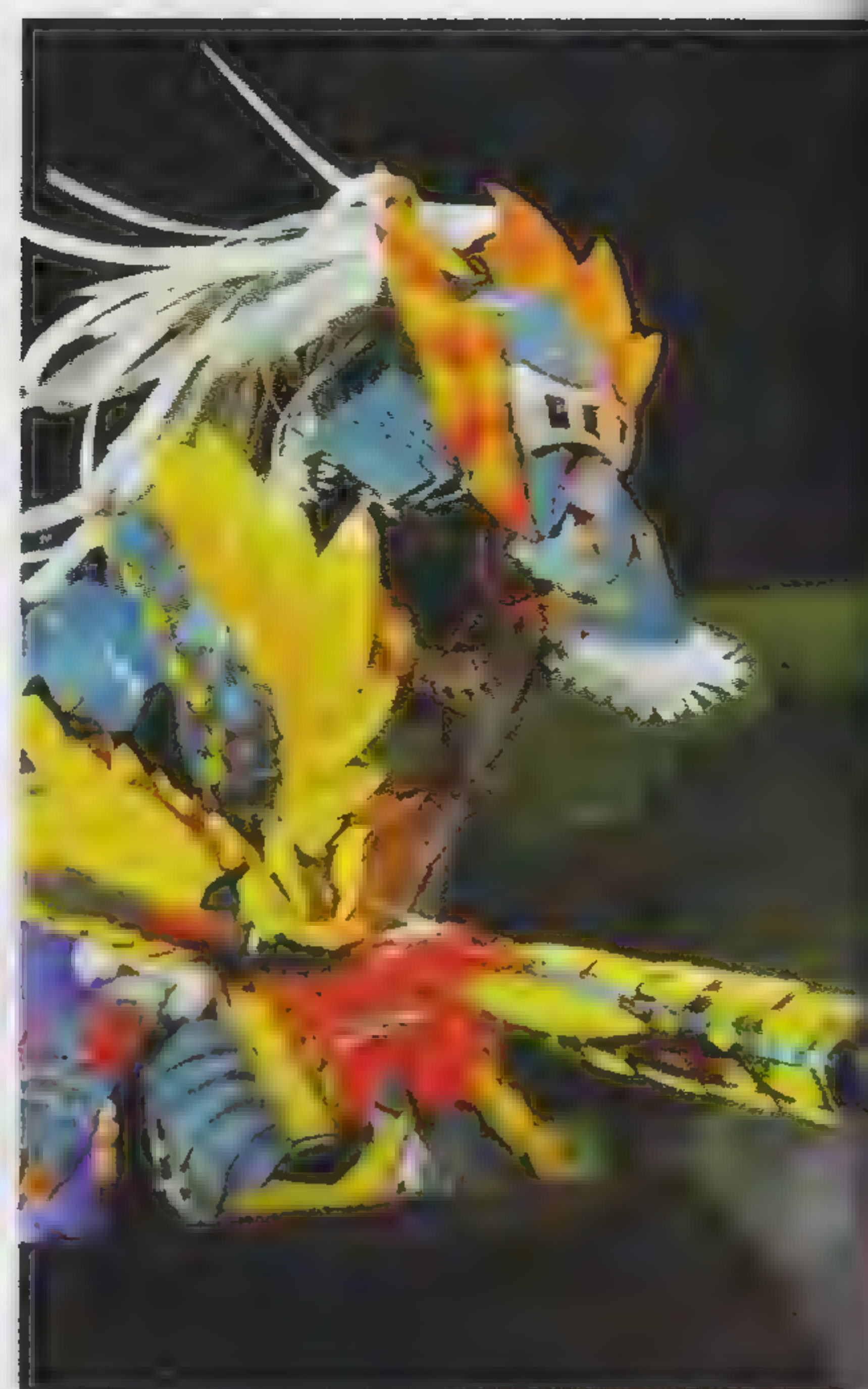
Our favorite event of the year was announced very early and it gave ample time for cosplayers, congoers, sponsors and booth sellers to prepare for the ever growing, biggest cosplay event of the year, the Cosplay Mania.

This year's cosmania is entitled, EVOLUTION to celebrate the over 10 years of Philippine cosplay and it's rise as a creative hobby for the young and the old. Only in it's 7th year, cosmania treats it's attendees with local and international bands, exhibitors, guests and events!

Cosplay Mania '14 was held last October 4 and 5, 2014 at the Function Rooms 3-5 of the SMX Convention Center Manila, SM Mall of Asia, Pasay City Philippines.

Our official photos can be viewed in our facebook account. Also check out our partner blog, arkadymac.com.





clockwise from left: Ahri cosplayer, TORCH Wild Card contestants, Aya Ikeda, Tatsumi Inui, TORCH winners, Louise and Brahm of Team Kanor, Reika and Orochi X's performance





OTAKU LIFE HACKS

written by kandy

Are there manga, art books, novels, magazines, stuffed toys, CD's, DVD's, games, calendars, organizers or other anime and manga merchandise that you want but are not available locally?

All otaku's do. And there is a solution

Eiwa Manga Store is an online store based in Manila managed by Jo and Rizza, dedicated women who are here to serve you and possibly give you what you want. It is their business to take orders for items available in the US or in Japan. When they started in 2008, they were only ordering manga but now, they've ordered other merchandise as long as it's obtainable and legitimate.

They have a website, eiwamangastore.com, where you can browse through their on-hand items. These are items that they stock on due to popularity and demand. We also see them during convention with a big bookshelf of manga and artbooks that are all original and of course, in English.

They also have a newsletter! E-mails brimming with updates and news from the store!

Join the community and share the love for anime and manga and everything in between.

What you can expect:

1. Manga titles you've always wanted
2. Anime series to complete your collection
3. Special orders for hard to get items
4. Otaku's you can perfectly connect with
5. Up to date cosplay events



And so much more.

Subscribe to their newsletter by scanning this QR Code!

Customer Reviews:

Faye Bendejo



My manga heaven on Earth! I always order How to Draw Manga in Eiwa to improve my skills. Ate Jo and Rizza are so friendly and kind. They have excellent customer service and they would do what they can to acquire the product customers are looking for.

Jaz Dionio



For me, Eiwa is the best place to go to when you're using proxy services to buy Japanese manga and doujinshi. The customer service is very good. They respond to your inquiries fast and they're very reliable. Thank you for making my purchasing easier :)



SMS:

Jo

Globe - 0915-929-8018

Sun - 0932-878-0991

Rizza

Globe - 0927-366-4349

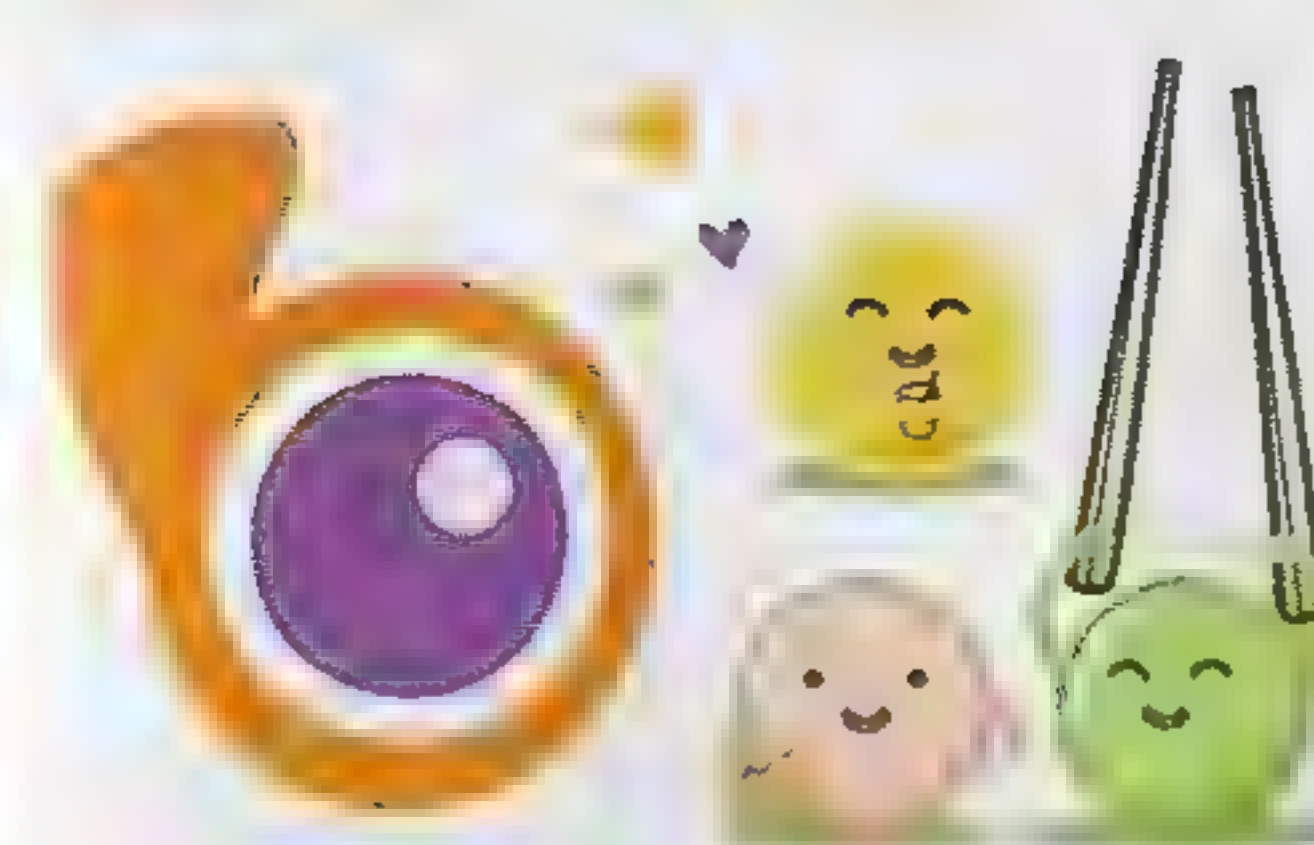
Sun - 0943-553-4224

BB PIN:

Rizza Ruste - 24F445ED

Email:

inquiry@eiwamangastore.com
eiwa.manga.store@gmail.com



Tokyo Bubble Tea is a great Japanese place to have your lunch, light snack meals, dinner or even when you come with your sesame street pajamas to have your midnight snacks. It is a great place to hangout with your friends and family where our ambiance encourages fun and laughter from menu, service and comfy place all year round!



Our Story

Tokyo Bubble Tea restaurant is a Philippine homegrown concept founded and managed by McWilson Group of Restaurants. It all started year 2007 when McWilson Group of Restaurants owners wished to introduce bubble milk tea drinks in Manila, along with Japanese style ambiance and food. The name bubble tea is derived from the drink popularized around Asia and we used it as our brand name to represent us that we specialize in brewing premium milk tea served with the best bubbles.



Our Product

We brew our tea everyday to give you the top-quality, fresh, healthy and all natural Tea drinks served with fun soft-chewy bubbles, Tokyo style. In addition, we only offer good, healthy and freshly-cooked food to make sure you get the best out of your favorite Japanese cuisine.



Due to overwhelming response of our customers, Bubble Tea is planning to expand its business and open more outlets in and outside Metro Manila.

Currently, Bubble Tea has branches in SM Megamall & SM North EDSA-The Block, which started 2007, and in Tomas Morato, Q.C. & Wilson, Greenhills, which started 2010, at The Fort, which started 2011 and now open at Westgate in Alabang, Harborpoint in Subic, Robinsons Place in Bacolod and Marquee Mall in Pampanga.

OTAKU LIKE HACKS

by kanddy

EYE CANDY SHOP

Last time (issue 14), we talked about how to take care of your contact lenses from opening, cleaning and storage.

Today, we will talk about the one who taught us that and her online shop that provides the contact lenses that you will need for both everyday use and cosplay.

You too can get that ulzzang look!

"Ulzzang" is a South Korean term that means best face or good-looking.

An online shop in Facebook that caters to cosplayers' needs and demands such as cosplay wigs, wig accessories and circle lenses. Taking the cue from their customers, they have also sold Korean apparel, kawaii leggings and tights and phone cases.

Owner Toni Fernando started wearing Geolika lenses at age 17. Back then it was hard to find contact lenses other than the eye clinics. Then at 2010, she started Eye Candy Shop with her relatives and friends.

Now with more than 22,000 likes on Facebook, ECS has served public figures, international and local cosplayers and the likes.



HOW TO ORDER:

Visit their FB page and browse their photo album



PM the page regarding your choice or you can contact them through the following:

+639173871187

@EyeCandyShop01

EyeKyandiShop

Eye CandyShop

PRE-ORDER

Pre-order means that Eye Candy Shop does not have your product on hand and will have to get it from the supplier.

Some orders take some 4-8 weeks but some can take only about 1-2 weeks like the Crystal eye lenses. This is because the supplier will have to ship the orders by batch and that some suppliers come from the US or Korea.

Cut-off is every Monday. Because they order from suppliers by batch, you will have to order up to the cut-off date or wait for the next week.

Remember to talk to them about your preferred payment method and pay.

SHIPPING

Once they have your product, they will check it for damages, include a free lens case and ship it to you immediately.

Shipping to the Metro Manila is free and takes less than a week while shipping to provinces is plus 50 Php and takes about 1-2 weeks.



Model: Cesz Garcia
CRYSTAL JEWEL SERIES
Crystal Jewel Series
Diameter: 14.5mm
Power Grades: -0.00 to -8.00 = PLANO ONLY
Made in Korea

Cosplay is the perfect outlet for me to express myself. It also challenges you to become someone or something beyond your normal self. To be able to bring a certain character to life and get positive reactions from friends and complete strangers is a rewarding experience to any cosplayer. It is fun and exciting!

I love the community (cosplay). You are exposed to people from all walks of life, some who you share common interests with. It might sound cliché and overused, but I am not after popularity. Aside from my love of anime, I ventured into cosplay because I wanted to get rid of my shy nature, rub shoulders with new and old friends, and sometimes it is a form of an escape for me.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my friends and supporters for the constant and undying support. My mom, for being my number one fan, my Eye Candy Shop family for their trust and for the free circle lenses, haha! And of course, God, for everything.

Cosplayer since 2011, Cesz Garcia
Flora the Grand Duelist / League of Legends (Cosmania 2012)
Biker Babe / Mercenary Online (Mercenary Online Tournament - Armageddon 2013)



Model: Kyra Custodio
CRYSTAL OPAL SERIES
Crystal Opal Series
Diameter: 14.5mm
Power Grades: -0.00 to -8.00 = PLANO ONLY
Made in Korea

Maria Kyra Francesca Villa Custodio better known as Kyra is a Filipina actress, model and dancer. Her Pinoy Big Brother: Teen Clash 2010 exposure has given her a chance to show her talent in dancing and acting. After her PBB summer experience, Kyra and her co PBB housemates were turned over to Star Magic Talent Center where they were given different workshops to enhance their talents.

After a series of workshops, she was finally given her first acting experience. She played (guest role) as the young Margarita Fortalejo-Cervanteson on Martha Cecilia's Kristine which aired on ABS-CBN in 2010. Shortly after her first acting gig, she joined the cast of a teen TV series called Good Vibes (ABS-CBN) in 2011 where she played the role of Saicy. The show gave her the opportunity to showcase her improved terpsichorean skills alongside Sam Concepcion, Enrique Gil and Arron Villaflor, with some of her co-teen housemates from PBB: James Reid, Devon Seron, Ivan Dorschner, Yen Santos and Kazel Kinouchi.

Actress since 2010, Kyra Custodio
Sisterakas (2012)
Annaliza (2013)
Kahit Puso'y Masugatan (2013)

More about Eye Candy Shop's brand ambassadors in the next issues! Also, next, the OA team wearing lenses!

GAMER'S ARENA



Inside the Toy Box of Infinite Possibilities

Disney

by Reikisha



INFINITY

As a child, we used to play with our toys and make them act in a scenario we came up with. Those are the days where our imagination took our toys to an exciting adventure where good triumphs over evil and bonds of friendship getting stronger. Now that we're too old to touch our childhood buddies, it makes us wish that we could go back to those times whenever we see them.

Thankfully, Disney will bring back the nostalgic feeling we had as a kid, but this time, on a gaming console with a huge twist!



Disney Infinity is an action-adventure sandbox game developed by Avalanche Software and Disney Interactive Studio for the PlayStation 3. In Japan, the game is developed by Iron Hand Studios and published by Namco Bandai Games exclusively for the Wii and Wii U. Lastly, Microsoft Studios published the game for the Xbox 360 and PC. Disney Infinity was first released in August 2013 in North America and Europe followed by Japan in November 2013.

A second edition of the game titled "Disney Infinity 2.0" features various superheroes from the Marvel universe and was released in September 2014.

Gameplay

Disney Infinity comes with three figurines which the player loads in the infinity base. The game itself is an action-adventure, open world creation game where players up to three can enjoy together. Each time a figurine is loaded in the infinity base, the player now unlocks that character as well as playing the game as that character. There are two game modes in Disney Infinity: Playset Mode and Toybox Mode.



Playset Mode

This is the game's campaign mode set in the world the figurine loaded in the infinity base originated. Each playset has their own unique gameplay that matches the theme of the world your character is in such as the hack-and-slash battle system in Pirates of the Carribeans and the stealth-based shooting mechanic in Monsters University. Players up to two can play in Playset Mode at once, but they can only use the characters from the same franchise.

Exploring the playset during or after the main campaign unlocks objects and vehicles that can be used in the Toybox Mode.

Toybox Mode

This mode puts the player's creativity to the test as they are allowed to build their ideal world using the set pieces they collected throughout the playset. The toybox mode also serves as a free mode where players can come up with their own game that makes full use of the world the built from scratch.

Review

Disney Infinity is Minecraft meets Little Big Planet. There is no sandbox game up to date that provides its players with unlimited potential in creating their world and a game mode that fits the creator's world. The fun factor of the playset mode varies from one franchise to another because no matter how unique each playset is in terms of gameplay, it all comes down to the player's preference. Disney Infinity's only downside is that in order for players to enjoy other playsets, they are required to purchase more figurines to load to the infinity base.

There's no doubt that kids will love seeing their favorite Disney characters come to life as a video game character, but adults can also enjoy playing with them as much as kids do. Great gift idea for Christmas!





PERRY *in* DISGUISE

LIVE OUT YOUR FANTASY

Owner/Founder/s:
Resa Arce and
Aaron D'Bayan

Shop Location:
www.pidclothing.com

Products:
P.I.D. mainly offers character
themed hoodies... (we of
course plan to expand our
product line in the future!)

Q: First of all, how did "Perry in Disguise" get its name?

The name "Perry" came from our favorite cartoon character on one of our favorite TV shows, which basically describes that the products offered by PID are inspired from anime, cartoons, movies, comics and video games. Perry in Disguise mainly offers character-themed hoodies. When you get to have a glimpse of our collections, we make it a point to create our hoodies to be as similar as possible to the character it was inspired from that you would want to wear it and "disguise" yourself into your favorite character. When Perry disguises himself as a secret agent, he becomes an entirely different person and enters an adventurous world different from its normal, boring life as a house pet. Like our hoodies, we want our customers to be able to take a break from their normal, everyday lives and feel like they are part of their favorite character's fantasy-like world when they wear them.

Q. What inspired you to start this business?

My partner and I are gamers, avid fans of anime, movies and other different related pop culture. Having an object that represents even the world of your favorite anime, movie, book, comics or video game character is something you feel you must die trying to own and collect. When you are so caught up with watching your favorite anime for example, you feel like you just want to jump into their world and live there. Everyone who is a fan of something wants to be their favorite character, or at least wants to be part of the world they live in. It's also the same for us. One of the things to satisfy these endless cravings from our most surreal fantasies is through collecting stuff related to your favorite franchise and wearing them to brag out to your friends.



Being a fan myself of certain anime, I go crazy every time I see merchandise that represents my favorite character from that show that I eventually end up getting it. My partner and I are also both very fond of wearing hoodies. Wearing a hoodie is always part of our attire, especially during the rainy days. It has always been a frustration for us to find the perfect hoodie that would make you stand out in your normal outfit given that most of all the casual hoodies look just the same. Wanting to be able to show off and express our fandom to other people through what we wear every day and in a casual manner inspired us to create character themed hoodies. Aside from wearing a part of your fandom, it makes you feel unique and stand out amongst others.

Q. When and how did P.I.D. started?

Perry in Disguise started in the year 2012. Aside from us being fond of wearing hoodies and jackets, we first started with making varsity jackets because of the current trend that time, and also for the purpose of getting additional income. Later on, we realize that we needed to innovate our product and began offering custom printed pullover hoodies. Since we were gamers and fans of anime and certain movies, we offered hoodies with custom prints related to their favorite anime, video game, movie, book or tvshow. The business we were doing suddenly turned into more of a passion since the products we were offering are related to our hobbies and interests. We thought that we wanted our customers to feel more special when wearing our hoodies, so we added creativeness and uniqueness to our products. Thus, we started to develop hoodies that are crafted and designed inspired from their favorite characters.

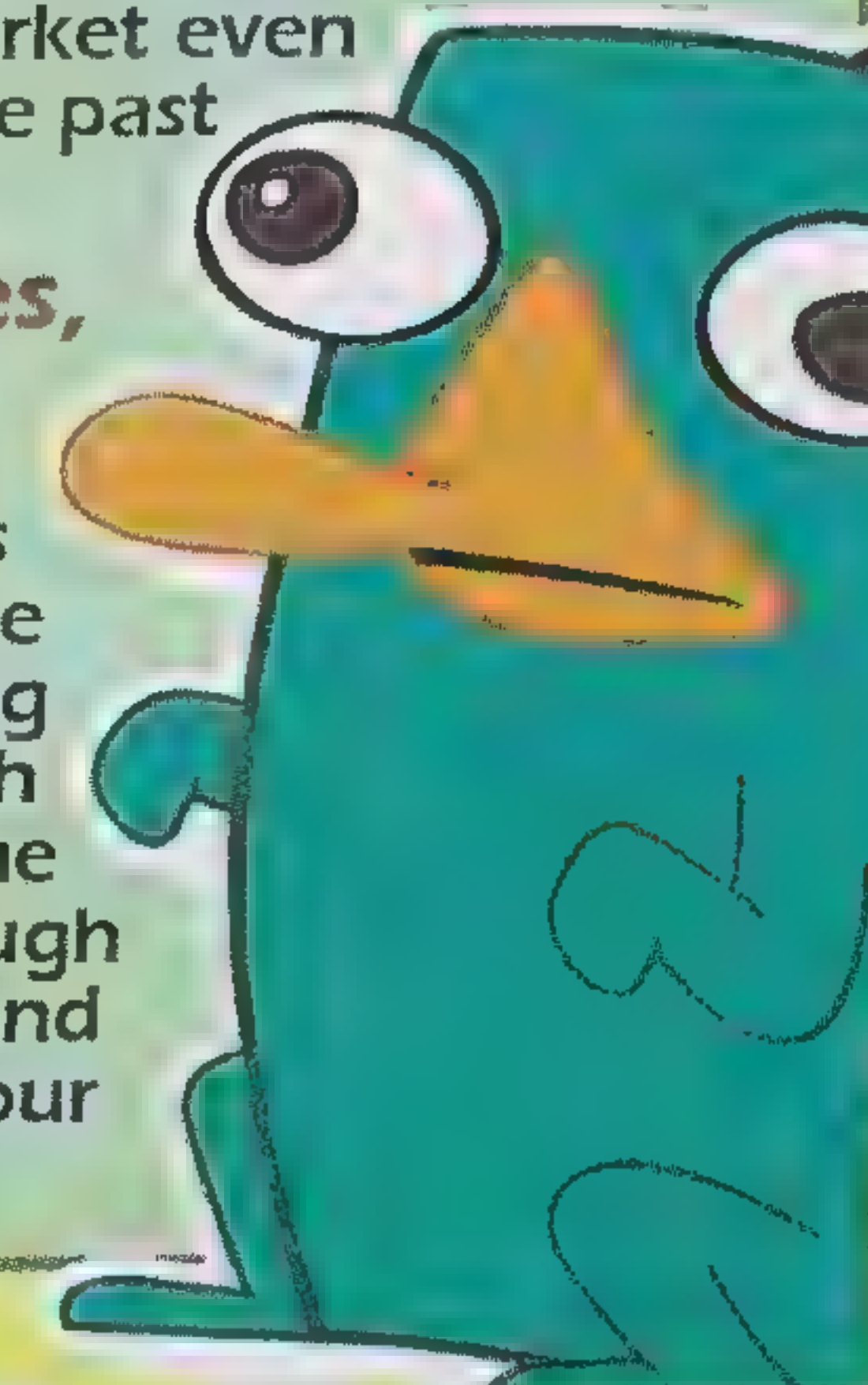


Q. When was your first convention that you joined as a partner/exhibitor?

We started joining conventions as an exhibitor only last January of this year. It took a while before us to finally decide to take the risk of getting a booth and showcasing our hoodies to the con-goers. We were hesitant at first since it would be a huge step for us, but eventually our efforts paid off. The first convention we joined was a success, and eventually we were able to grow and expand our market even more as we continued to join the succeeding events through the past months.

Q. In your opinion, which is better in terms of sales, having a booth in an event or online selling?

Orders both from our booth during conventions and through our online page are not far from each other. Since conventions are only at most a 2-3 day event, orders online are of course more dominant than during our events. However, because of having booths during conventions that we are able to meet and establish deeper relationships with our customers that it helps our online market grow even more through referrals/word of mouth. Through online selling, we get to communicate with clients nationwide, and through our booths during conventions, we are able to meet our customers who are based within Metro Manila area.

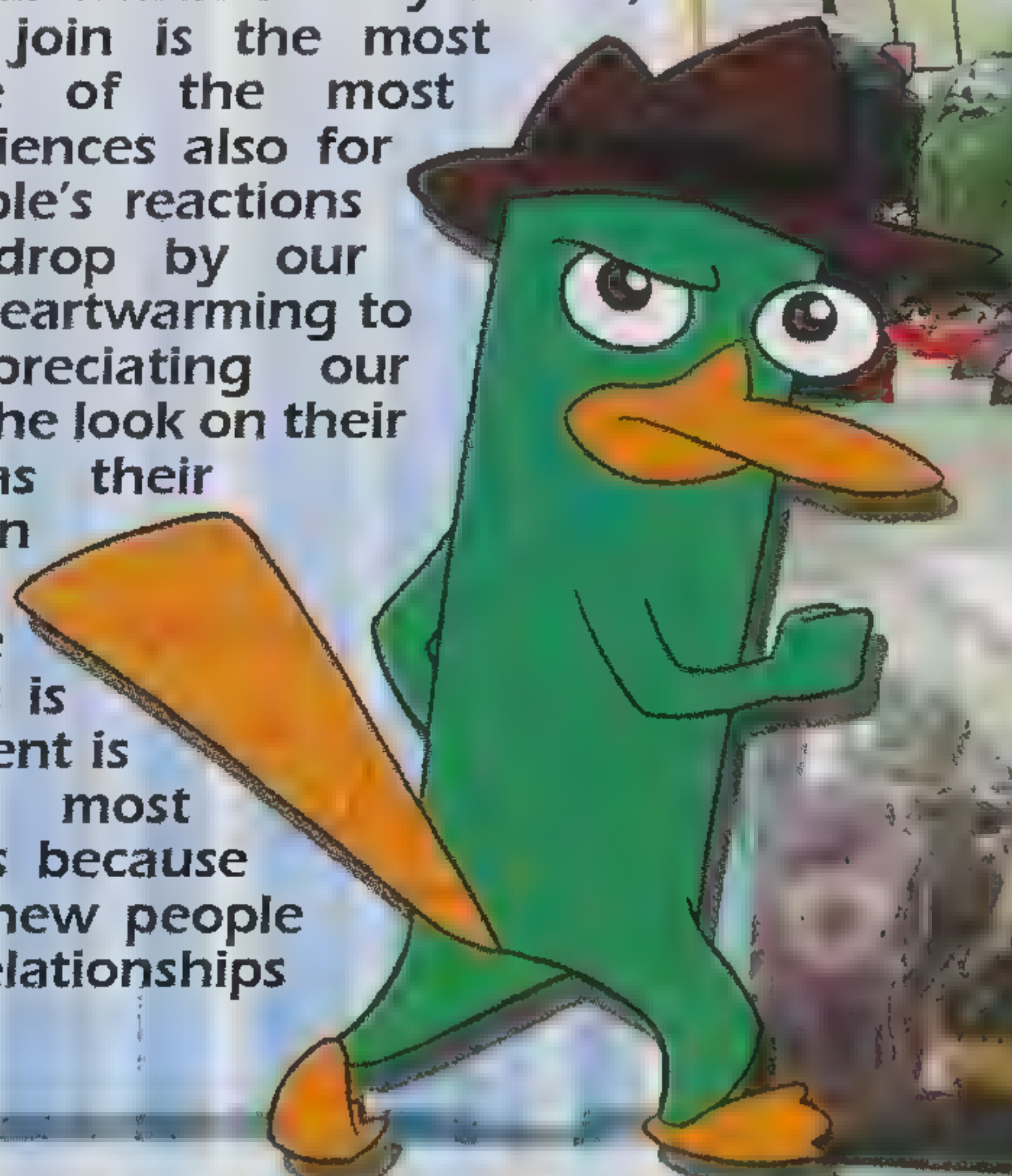


Q. How was your first time having a booth in a con?

Our first time having a booth in a con was indeed, one of the most memorable experiences we had! We got to meet lots of customers and got to experience lots of funny and interesting moments with them. The first time, like all the other succeeding cons were very tiring though, but every inch of tiredness we felt that day was definitely worth it! It made us feel happy knowing that lots of customers went to the said con venue just to drop by our booth and buy a hoodie from us. We really truly appreciate those who visited and supported us that day.

Q. What was the most memorable event you experienced? Why?

Actually, every convention is the most memorable for us. Each convention we join has at least one experience we would never forget. There are very entertaining situations we would want to share with you guys but they are just too many. Haha! Seriously though, our customers never fail to make us smile... which is why for us, every event we join is the most memorable. One of the most memorable experiences also for us is seeing people's reactions every time they drop by our booth. It is very heartwarming to see people appreciating our products. Seeing the look on their faces as well as their reactions when they see a hoodie of their favorite character from us is priceless. Each event is always the most memorable for us because we get to meet new people and form new relationships with them.



Q. How do you come up with your designs?

We always do continuous research and development towards our products. I believe we could never stop on learning something new to be able to improve our products even more. One of the things we value the most would be the opinions of our customers which would be why we make it a point to conduct surveys and offer up ourselves open to character suggestions from them. We usually prioritize developing designs from the characters that majority of our clients have suggested from us. Other than this, we also develop and release designs based on the characters, video games, anime, movies or comics where fans of that we believe majority of our clients will appreciate also.

Q. Are there any crazy requested designs you encountered?

Well, I would not call their requests crazy... I mean, I have my own bizarre fantasies of wearing a particular hoodie myself that I bet my friends would not even dare be caught in it. It may be crazy or very unusual for them, but it's a different story for me. As long as I'm happy wearing it, I'm doing good. Plus, I bet there are some people with the same interests as mine who are dying to know where I'd get that jacket. :p

Q. Being an online shop, do you also have international shipping?

We cater to clients outside the Philippines, however we always advise them to have their relatives or friends here in the country to ship their orders to them abroad since international shipping rates are quite more expensive if we do it directly. If the customer is still willing to pay for the additional expense though, we are still happy to cater to them.

Q. Who were your international clients?

We had some customers who ordered from Japan and Norway before. A few were from the USA. Their orders though were shipped to them through their relatives or friends here in the Philippines. There were also instances that customers from Singapore were inquiring on our page. Of course, we are planning to expand more in the future to be able to cater better to our international clients by starting on research on different logistics couriers that would level up to our requirements. I remember once during a particular convention here in Metro Manila, almost all of the clients who were foreigners that dropped by our booth were begging us to do international shipping for them! Since one of the things we hate the most is to disappoint our customers, we really had to promise that we'll work hard in the future to make that happen for them.



Q. Who were the well-known local clients you had?

We had a couple of well known local customers in the past, like 2 known DJs from a well known radio station, Chris Tsuper and Mceepot. We also had the well-known Kobesaya from the local basketball community who is known to be the Kobe Bryant look alike and who regularly appeared during PBA shows during the previous PBA seasons. Celebrity Bobby Andrews also had been our client once, and he even bought one for his daughter. We also supplied jackets for the famous singer Rannie Raymundo and his choir group. If you are a gamer, you would know Wargods. We supply hoodies for them and their merc handise as well as designed their League of Legends team jackets. Other clients we had were known local models and bloggers. It gets us excited every time well-known people acknowledge us, and we hope to continue to expand and be known more in the future.

Q. As of now, how many clients do you think P.I.D. has served?

We really do not count them since they have been too many, given how long it has been since we started PID. There are always lots of familiar faces who drop by and purchase one or two of our hoodies every convention that we remember though. What matters to us by the way is that our customers would end up happy and satisfied with their hoodies. We believe that as long as you prioritize what your clients want and continue to make them happy, everything will follow.

Q. What are your top-picked items which are usually sold-out or requested?

Our number one best-selling design that has so far never gone out of trend has been our Assassin's Creed product line. Every time we release a new AC inspired hoodie, it never fails to run out of stock immediately. At present, other designs that have been selling out fast are our Mekaku City Actors inspired hoodies. We have first released the Kido inspired hoodies, and plan to release Kano inspired. A lot of people have been requesting us to make all the characters though. One of the classic designs that has also been usually sold out are our Trafalgar Law inspired hoodies from One Piece and our Link inspired hoodies from the Legend of Zelda. A lot of people have been also requesting from us deadpool inspired hoodies and as soon as we released them, like our Kido inspired hoodies, they were also sold out immediately.

Q. What do you think are the pros and cons in having a jacket/hoodie business?

One of the pros of having a hoodie/jacket business is that finding the perfect hoodie for you is honestly very hard to look for. Creating the perfect hoodie/jacket that suits well the demands of your customer is a big advantage for you. The cons of having this kind of business however, is that the need for jackets/ hoodies are seasonal, especially that the Philippines is a tropical country which means the weather could be rather hot at times. You have to really think of a good strategy offer to be able to market your hoodies during those times.

Q. Who are more request-asking people? Congoers or cosplayers

Both cosplayers and congoers have been requesting numerous designs for us to make. We never pinpoint which is which, but all of them have a desire to be able to wear and express their avid fandom even on a normal day when there are no conventions or cosplay events to attend to.

Q. With OA being sneaky, may we know some stuff you'll be offering that everyone can look forward to?

We have a pretty long line up waiting to be released during the months to come. Like we have told and promised our customers, we will be releasing other hoodies inspired from the remaining characters in Mekaku City Actors. You could be expecting of course from us a killer new hoodie inspired from the upcoming Assassin's Creed Unity. For our fellow anime fans out there, you might be expecting a hoodie inspired from Tokyo Ghoul and SAO. We've got more designs waiting in line though, but hey. I think we've spilled out quite a lot of information already, right? We still want to keep you guys excited, after all. :P

Q. A message to your growing fans and our beloved otaku community~

First of all, we are truly grateful to you guys for your never ending support and patronage towards PID! We want to make all your purchases from us super worth it so do not hesitate to give us suggestions in order for us to serve you guys even better. Seeing your familiar faces filled with happiness and excitement especially during each and every convention we join gives us the motivation to work hard even more to give you the best hoodies you will ever have. We hope to continue to be with you guys all throughout the journey we are about to face in the future. We just want you all to know that without all of you, who continue to support us, we would not be where we are right now and we will not definitely be where we want to be.



If you want to know more about us or you have any suggestions in mind, we are just one message away on Facebook, or you could just approach us at our booth during conventions. Hehe. See you all around!!! :D



OTAKU GOODIES



DANGO!

on the left:
keychain 40
XXL 500

on the right:
small 80
medium 150
large 230

DANGO SET:

1 Small + 1 Medium + 1 Large
+ 1 keychain = 450 Php

available in the ff colors:
yellow, orange, red, light pink,
pink, fuschia, purple, blue,
apple green, gray & black

On another
round of our
Christmas gift
suggestions,
we have our
friend and
partner,
PERKEE who
has given us
so many
plushies
through time
and they have
never let us
down~

So we hope
you will think
of giving one
for Christmas
this year.



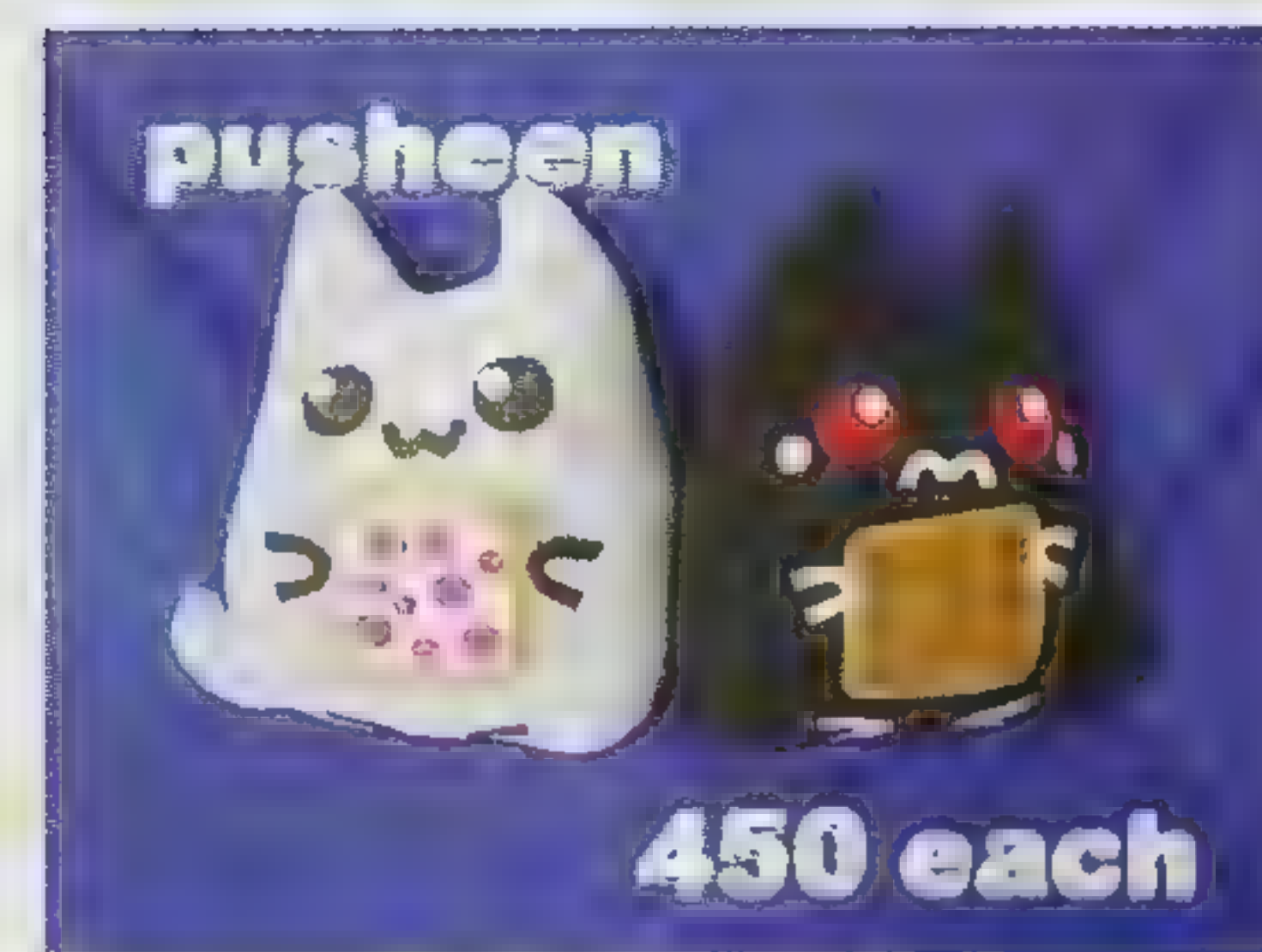
League of Legends poro

350



hetalia mochi

cube: 400
regular: 300



pusheen

450 each



totoro set

600 each



pika-sheen

450 each



nyan-cat & tac nyan

big: 800 each
small: 600 each



plankton & gary

250 each



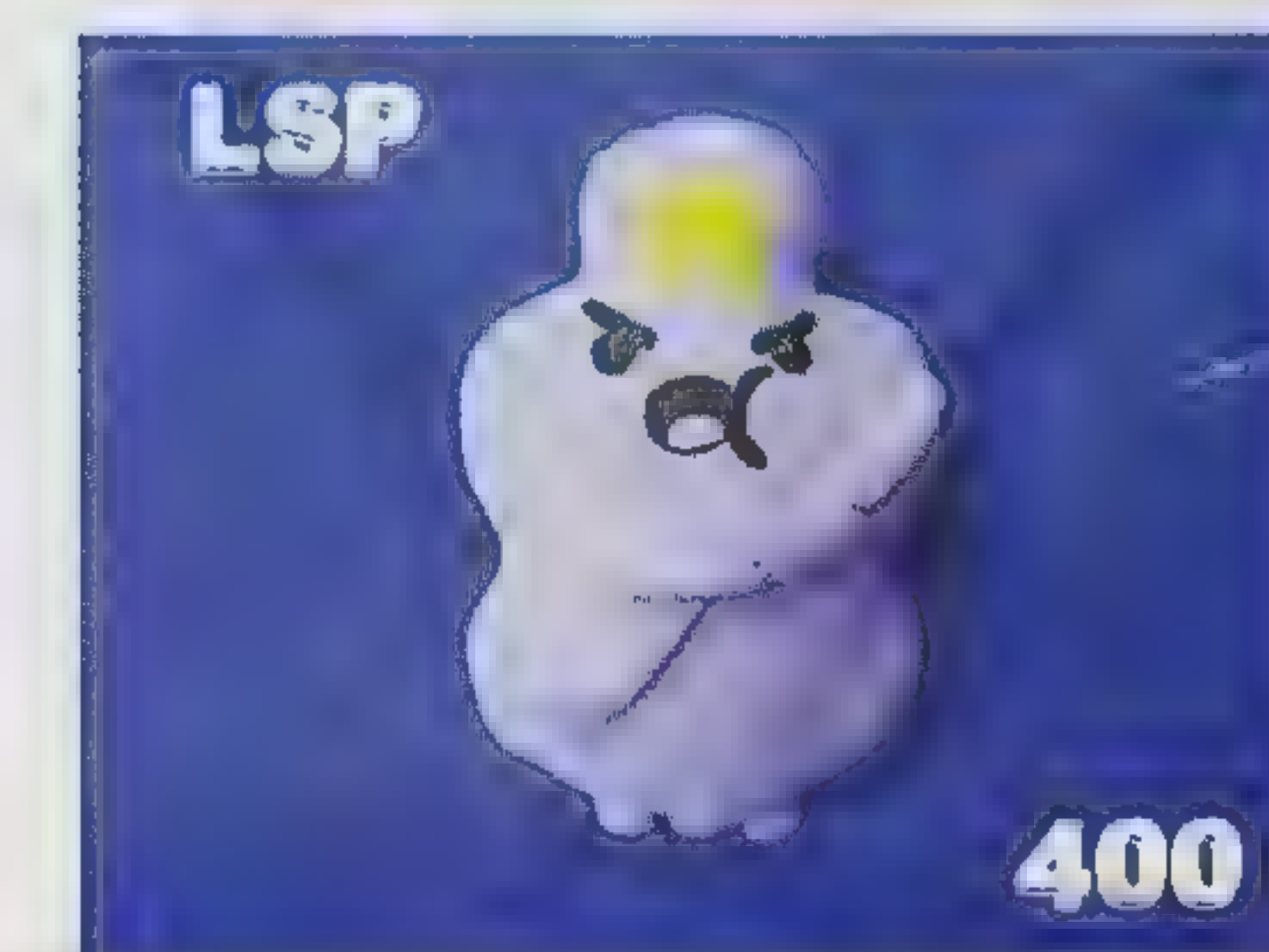
finn bag pillow

250



gunter

400



LSP

400



jake

400



mario mushroom

250 each

GATSBY

LONG LASTING PERFUME
URBAN COLOGNE
New Fragrance Collection for Men

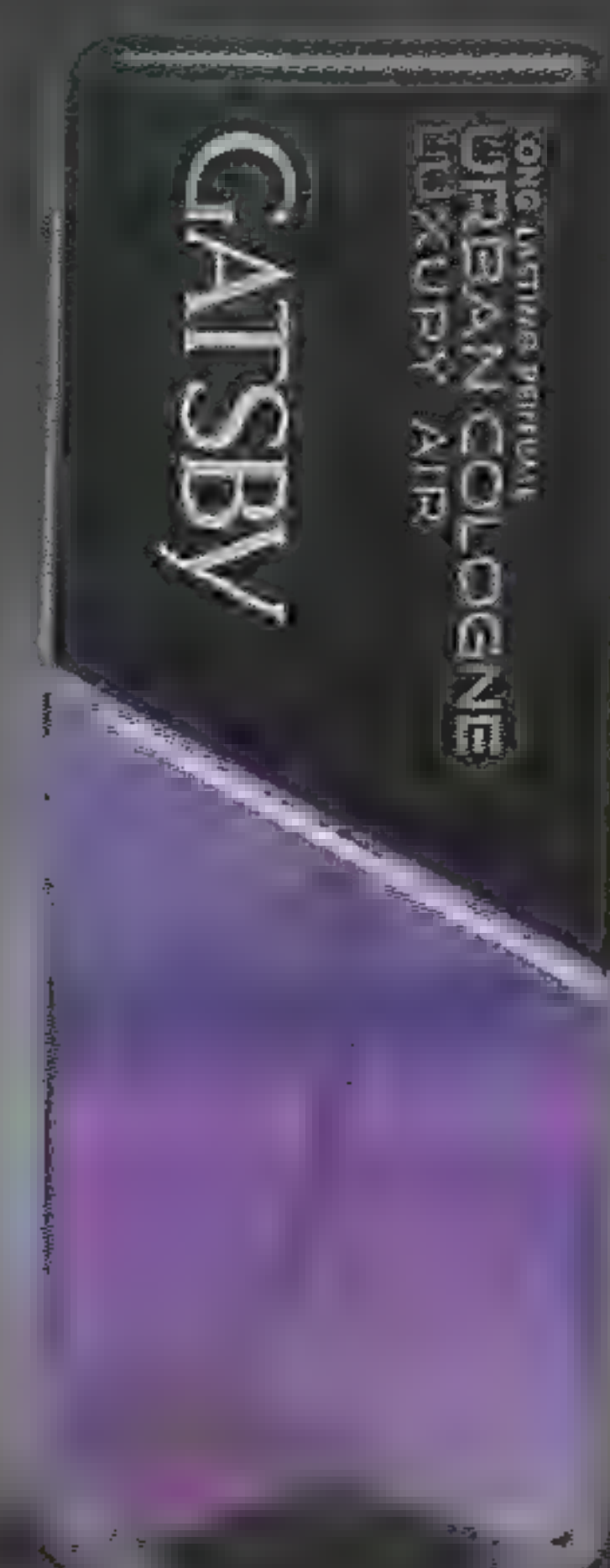
FIND YOUR GATSBY SIGNATURE SCENT

Every man needs a signature scent that shows off his true personality. Gatsby Urban Cologne collection
we have. Urban bold fragrances with an urban edge recommended for casual use.



BOLD SPIRIT

A warm note combining spicy and
rich aroma creates an active and
adventurous image



LUXURY AIR

A warm and tranquil note
incorporating aromatic freshness
creates a calm and
forward-looking image



CLEAR MIND

A refreshing note combining clear
citrus and fruity notes creates
jovial yet elegant



SECRET STYLE

A modern note incorporating a hint
of fruity note creates a cool and
stylish image

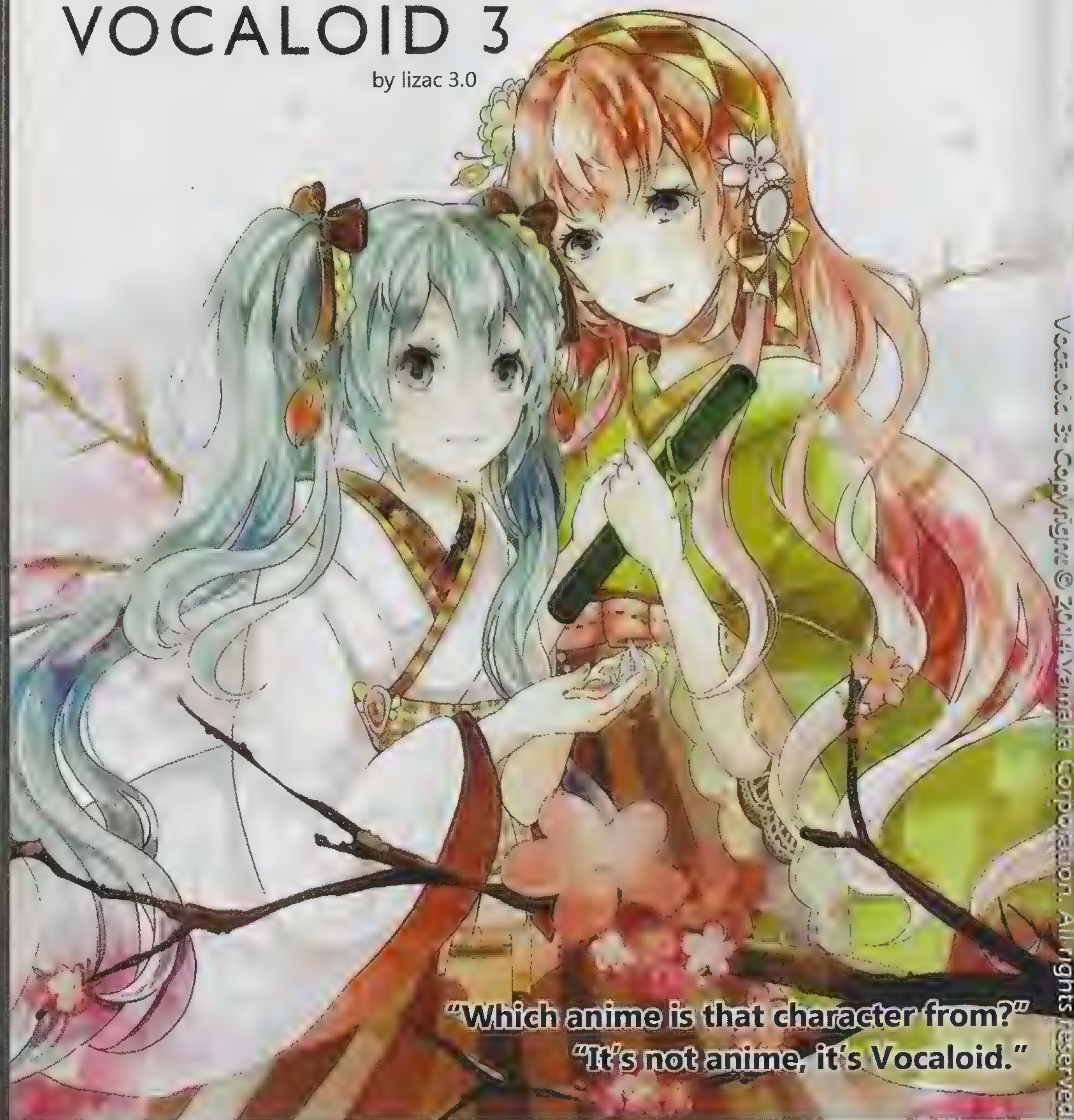


PERFECT SENSE

A deeply spicy and cool note
creates a smart and
cultivated image

The New Musical Genre: VOCALOID 3

by lizac 3.0



"Which anime is that character from?"
"It's not anime, it's Vocaloid."

Perhaps one of the most irritating remarks that a Vocaloid fan could hear from a person who has no clue about Vocaloid is the fact that it is usually confused for anime. With the characters having anime-like features, you can't exactly blame them. But Vocaloids are more than what meets the eye. Sometimes, they accomplish more than some anime protagonists do and they are actually quite busy! Vocaloids sing, dance, practice, practice, and practice, appear on videos, and sometimes, perform on virtual concerts. Basing on the name "Vocaloid" itself, you can easily infer that it is a portmanteau of the words "vocals" and "android". They look like anime characters, but the one thing that separates them from the rest is their voices. Their synthesized vocals make them sound quite robotic, thus the term "Vocaloid".

Developed by Yamaha Corporation completely in 2004, Vocaloid is a musical synthesizer application that allows its users such as amateur musicians, professionals, and studios, to produce songs out of vocal banks and libraries upon the input of lyrics and melody. Essentially, the release of V3 has caused a lot of interference to its own brand. First, the original date of release has been moved and delayed after over a month. Also, the heavy promotion for V3 overlapped with V2 while the project was taking place. Since V3 has more voice banks than V2, Yamaha deemed it necessary to promote it during that time. Additionally, V3 affected the development of V2 voice banks. After Yamaha announced the release of V3, the release of some V2 Appends has been delayed.



Despite these issues, V3 has pushed through and included several features helpful for the development of Vocaloid songs. The main features of V3 are having "Triphones" (a feature that produces a different sound once three phonemes are put together), additional languages such as Chinese, Korean, and Spanish, (aside from the usual English and Japanese languages available in previous Vocaloid engines), access to updates directly from Yamaha, and smoother voice quality. In order to appreciate V3 more, let's take a look at what each V3 software has in store for every Vocaloid fan.



SEEU

Produced and distributed by SBS Artech, SeeU is the first female Korean Vocaloid among all the Vocaloid engines and the first bilingual character in V3. Her character design as illustrated by KKUEM is highly stylish and elegant. Although the original concept was to make her appear lively and mysterious at the same time, her demeanor while she's at rest appears to lean towards the cold and mysterious side.

Her voice is provided by singer Dahee Kim from the K-pop idol group "GLAM". Most of her songs are accompanied by a happy melody. However, her voice has a lower and colder tone compared to other female Vocaloids which gives quite a unique balance to her songs.

SeeU is the embodiment of two East Asian countries combined (South Korea and Japan). However, contrary to the popularity of K-pop and J-pop, SeeU has struggles with penetrating both countries. It seems that the long time rivalry between South Korea and Japan in pop culture and other aspects affected the projection of SeeU's popularity. There is no telling how exactly she fares in both countries, but indeed, reactions vary.

V3 MEGPOID

Megpoid was originally the Extend version of Gumi produced by Internet Co., Ltd., but later on launched as a separate voice bank. Her voice provider is Megumi Nakajima, thus the Vocaloid names "Megpoid" and "Gumi" respectively.

Megpoid comes in different types namely Megpoid Adult, Power, Sweet, and Whisper. They can either be purchased as a package or individually. Megpoid Adult as the name suggests, is more focused on creating deep tones, making GUMI sound more mature. Meanwhile, Megpoid Power produces a more dominant voice range than the other types. Megpoid Sweet and Megpoid Whisper create softer tones, and these are exceptionally remarkable for producing very sweet sounds.

V3 Megpoid enables its users to apply only slight changes in each varying tone for the purpose of smoother vocal flow and experience specialized singing at its best. Additionally, the vocals do not differ that much from the first Megpoid. Masami Yuuki designed the overall character of Megpoid V3. She appears to be energetic and has a slightly boyish behaviour.



ANON & KANON

Naturally, the music industry won't be complete without duos! Meet the first Vocaloid twins produced and distributed by Yamaha and Bplats, Inc., anon & kanon. Both are senior high school students, love dancing, and love eating bread. But despite being identical twins and having these uncanny similarities, their differences are rather obvious.

Anon, the short-haired girl is depicted as a bit of an airhead who has troubles focusing on anything aside from dancing. This is quite evident in her vocals as her voice is naturally high-pitched and a bit too lively. Kanon, the older half, is portrayed as the more responsible student between the two. She doesn't lose focus and she has quick reflexes, making her a sporty type of character.

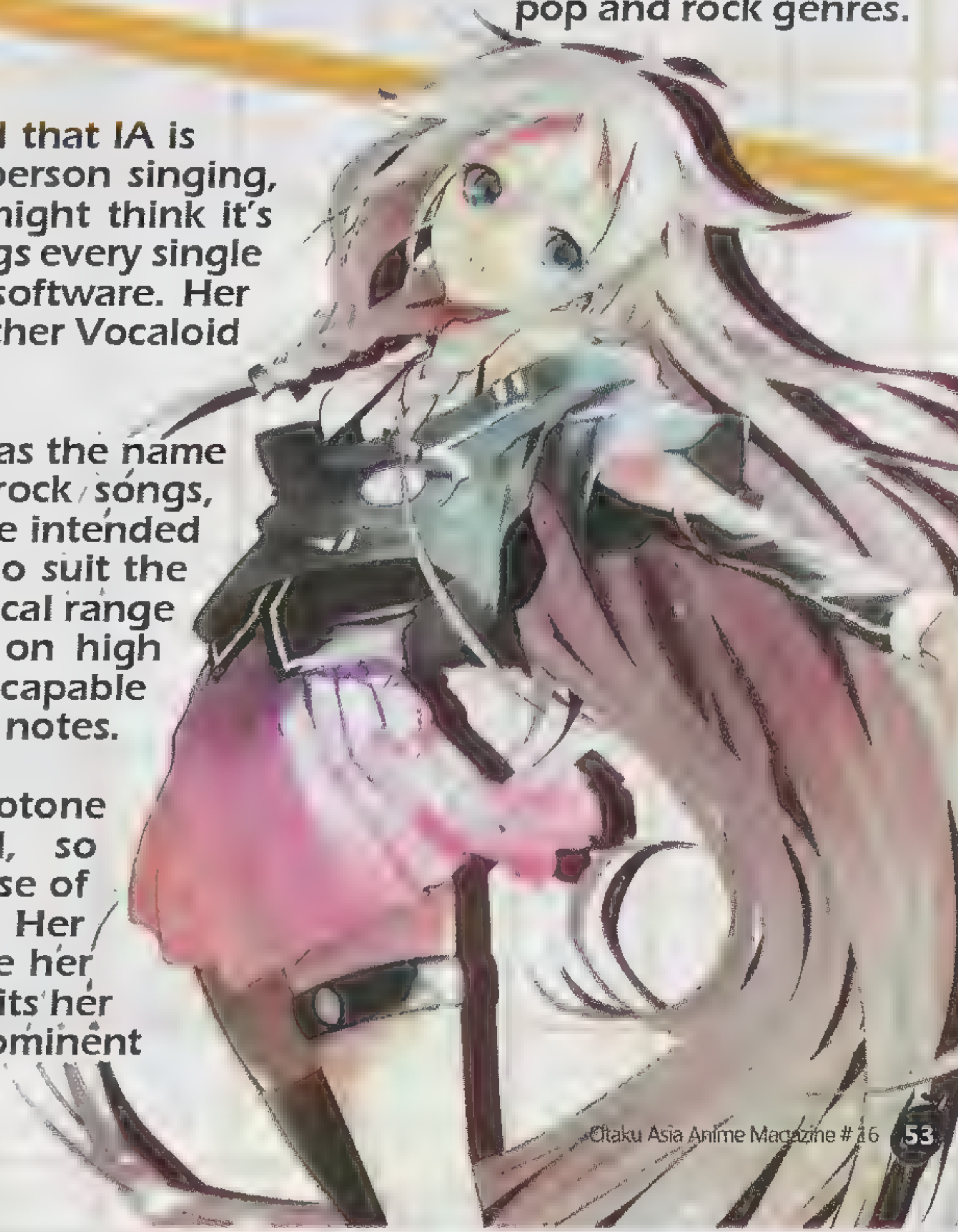
When it comes to their expertise, Anon is inclined towards slower and sweeter songs. Her vocal range is wider which enables her to switch from mellow to cheerful tones, whereas Kanon is more reliable with profound and powerful tones. This slight variation in their vocal ranges creates harmonious melodies whenever they sing together, but in specific genres, the expertise of one outshines the other. They do, however, stand out together in pop and rock genres.

IA ROCKS V3

It wouldn't probably cross your mind that IA is actually a Vocaloid and not a real person singing, once you listen to her songs. You might think it's really Lia, her voice provider, who sings every single song produced through the IA V3 software. Her voice is realistic-sounding than any other Vocaloid software.

Created by 1st PLACE, IA ROCKS V3 as the name suggests, has been developed for rock songs, compared to IA V3's light-toned voice intended for mellow songs. Her voice may also suit the jazz and bossa nova genres as the vocal range is still the same. Her expertise lies on high notes if utilized perfectly, and she is capable of creating and sustaining prolonged notes.

Her low and mid-notes are quite monotone if adjusted at a longer interval, so high-pitched melodies might make use of her ability more significantly. Her appearance is very casual-like despite her striking hair color. Her vocal ability suits her image of having a trouble-free yet prominent personality.



HATSUNE MIKU V3

The girl who started it all, the most popular of them all, Hatsune Miku! Developed by Crypton Future Media, Inc., Hatsune Miku V3 was initially released last Sept. 26, 2013. Users who have availed of Hatsune Miku V2 and Append vocals would have an update of Hatsune Miku V3 with the Triphones features first and foremost.

Two types of voices have been added such as Vivid and Light, and users may avail it for free, provided they download it within Crypton Future Media's specified period of time. If the user failed to download Vivid and Light, they will be faced with certain issues. It would be difficult for them to keep up with faster genres of music. Also, "Sweet" and "Dark" would naturally lose their "Vivid" and "Light" counterparts important for harmony. Because of this issue, only "Solid" stands as the powerful tone in the whole Hatsune Miku V3 version, and "Soft" and "Sweet" intended for lighter tones.

However, these types would make-do, depending on the ability of the producer. As for Hatsune Miku V3 voices, there are five types namely Original, Sweet, Dark, Soft, and Solid. Hatsune Miku V3's original voice is full and endearing, just slightly different from the very first development of Hatsune Miku.

KAITO V3

The only Japanese boy in the Vocaloid universe, KAITO V3 had to undergo through a lot of processes and overhauls before he is finally completed. This confusion is expected since Crypton Future Media itself doesn't know whether the latest version of KAITO belongs to V2 or V3. In the end, KAITO V3's vocals are totally new recordings, bearing none of the previous Vocaloid voice banks.

His voice provider is Naoto Fuuga. KAITO V3 has four individual vocals namely Straight, Soft, Whisper, and English. Once you listen to his Straight Demo, you might mistake it for the Soft one because his voice is very soft and soothing. This individual vocal may be perfect for all song genres, although it is perfectly suitable for folk and country songs.

Meanwhile, the development of KAITO v3's English voice bank took a lot of time to progress. The illustration on Kaito exudes a mystifying look. His outfit is also mage-like carrying an all-over cold blue color from top to bottom.

GACKPOID V3

Familiar, yes? In fact, V3 Gackpoid's whole character is not just loosely based on actor / singer / song-writer Gackt, but he is the sole inspiration for it. He is also the voice provider for this traditional-looking yet demi-god Vocaloid character.

V3 Gackpoid is perhaps the most realistic-sounding among all male vocaloids, and a close second to IA ROCKS. Although V3 Gackpoid wasn't widespread at first, the sudden demand for male vocals and Gackt's popularity brought V3 Gackpoid back in the game.

Gackt didn't really bother changing his vocals when he provided for his Vocaloid; V3 Gackpoid's voice for each individual vocal as in Native, Whisper, and Power, sounds just like him. V3 Gackpoid is known for both upbeat and mellow songs produced for him but consistently using his soft voice all throughout, even the individual vocal Power. V3 Gackpoid was illustrated by Kentaro Miura. He looks like a member of the Shinsengumi as usually portrayed in anime.

MEIKO V3

Despite being KAITO V3's female counterpart, MEIKO V3's voice is inclined towards upbeat and rock songs. But just like KAITO, it is also unknown whether she belongs to V2 or V3 versions. She has also undergone a lot of improvement year after year as apparent on her different Appends, until Crypton Future Media eventually decided on the final version. Her voice provider is Meiko Haigo.

MEIKO V3 has five Individual vocals like Power, Straight, Dark, Whisper, and English. Meiko's character design as illustrated by Wasshi, shows that she has a strong and dominant personality. This pattern is also evident in the songs usually produced utilizing her software. Her songs lie on the mellow-rock, pop-rock, and rock genres. The reception to her appearance is highly favourable.

Vocaloid itself is an interesting and innovative invention which our generation can make use of to be highly productive in the music industry. It can be used practically by anyone: those bands lacking one or two backup singers, rehearsal routines for budding musicians, and continuous practice for professional studios. With Vocaloid 3, we can expect more improvement in music at a global-level, wishing to reach more non-English speaking countries through music. If ever that happens, "Is Vocaloid anime?" may not sound too annoying. Who knows, there could be an official anime for it someday?



MOVIE REEL

by kanddy

2014.11.22公開

The fight for humanity is not yet over yet!

Before we can have a season two of Shingeki no Kyojin, they have announced that the television anime will be recompiled into two theatrical films. The first, Shingeki no Kyojin Zenpen: Guren no Yumiya (Attack on Titan Part 1: Crimson Bow and Arrow) to open November 22 in select theaters in Japan. The second film, Shingeki no Kyojin Kohen: Jiyu no Tsubasa (Attack on Titan Part 2: Wings of Freedom), will open in 2015. Both films are named after Link Horizon's popular opening themes for the television anime.

The new films will be redubbed and remastered with the same voice cast members. Yuuki Kaji returns as Eren Jaeger, Yû Ishikawa as Mikasa Ackerman and Maria Inoue as Armin Arlelt. The producers, director Tetsuro Araki and composer Hiroyuki Sawano will return as well.

The first film will be a recompilation of the anime series from episodes 1 through 13. While the second film covers the remaining episodes 14 to 25. Both directed released by Wit Studio.

August 30, a trailer was released for the first movie featuring the new theme song, Guren no Zahyou by Linked Horizon.

Sadly, the movie is only to be released in Japan and one ticket costs 1500 Yen tax included. And if you book in advanced, you get a B6 Mini clear file.



Online, fans of the anime have stated their feelings toward the two movies. While they would rather have a second season, they still welcome this announcement as 'better than nothing'.

Though there is still no word about a second season, the manga is still ongoing.

After a long period of waiting, we are ready to see our favorite characters again with the story flowing continously rather than per episode. Attack!!



Ore, Twintail ni Narimasu

I Will Become a Twintail

written by: Nathaniel

The twintails hairstyle is undeniably one of the most attractive hairstyles for guys like Souji Mitsuka. But for him to actually transform into a twintailed girl called Tail Red and fight to protect the peace on Earth with his childhood friend Aika Tsube was something he didn't expect to happen in his entire life.

Ore, Twintails ni Narimasu is an upcoming anime based from the light novel created by Ayumu Kasugawa and Yume Mizusawa. It is scheduled to run for 12 episodes starting from October 10 with Production IMS as its animation studio. Nobunaga Shimazaki and Sumire Uesaka takes the lead role in the anime as Souji Mitsuka and Tail Red respectively.



The opening theme song will be performed by Maaya Uchida, titled "Gimme! Revolution" and its single will be released in Japan on October 22 along with the ending theme single performed by Sumire Uesaka, Yuka Aisaka and Chinatsu Akesaka.

Catch Souji / Tail Red and the rest of the Twintails Squadron as they defend Earth against the forces of evil this Fall 2014.

CHARACTER BIO

Mikoshiba Mikoto

a.k.a. Mikorin by Ann

Talents:
drawing accessories,
flowers, and accents

Likes:
to be complimented

Dislikes:
getting trapped into
saying embarrassing
things that attract girls

The super handsome playboy is how Gekkan Shoujo Nozaki-kun's Mikoshiba Mikoto would describe himself but all his flirtatious comments and responses actually make his face flushed with redness! At first sight, this not-so-ordinary stereotype for playboy appears to be very confident when dealing with the girls who go gaga for him, his charm bounces back at his shy nature. Because he knows his charm potential, he does get easily carried away when somebody compliments him.

Meanwhile, Mikoshiba is the inspiration behind Umetarou Nozaki, the manga artist's heroine, Mikorin, because of the way that his feminine features show whenever he gets embarrassed. Although Mikoshiba can barely draw characters or objects, he is very good with flowers and accents which he says brings out the charm of the characters in the manga, so he is one of Nozaki's assistants.

Aside from his strong passion for charm, Mikoshiba is also a big fan of playing dating sims and he sometimes asks Nozaki for advice on the game. Three years prior to when he met Nozaki, he played dating sims in order to understand girls. He aspires to conquer all kinds of girls by learning about them through the game.

Will he really be able to conquer all girls' hearts or will there be one that should stand out from the rest? Find out more in his quirky adventures along with the other equally crazily comical characters of Gekkan Shoujo Nozaki-kun!

Mikoshiba © 2014 SQUARE ENIX CO., LTD. All Rights Reserved.

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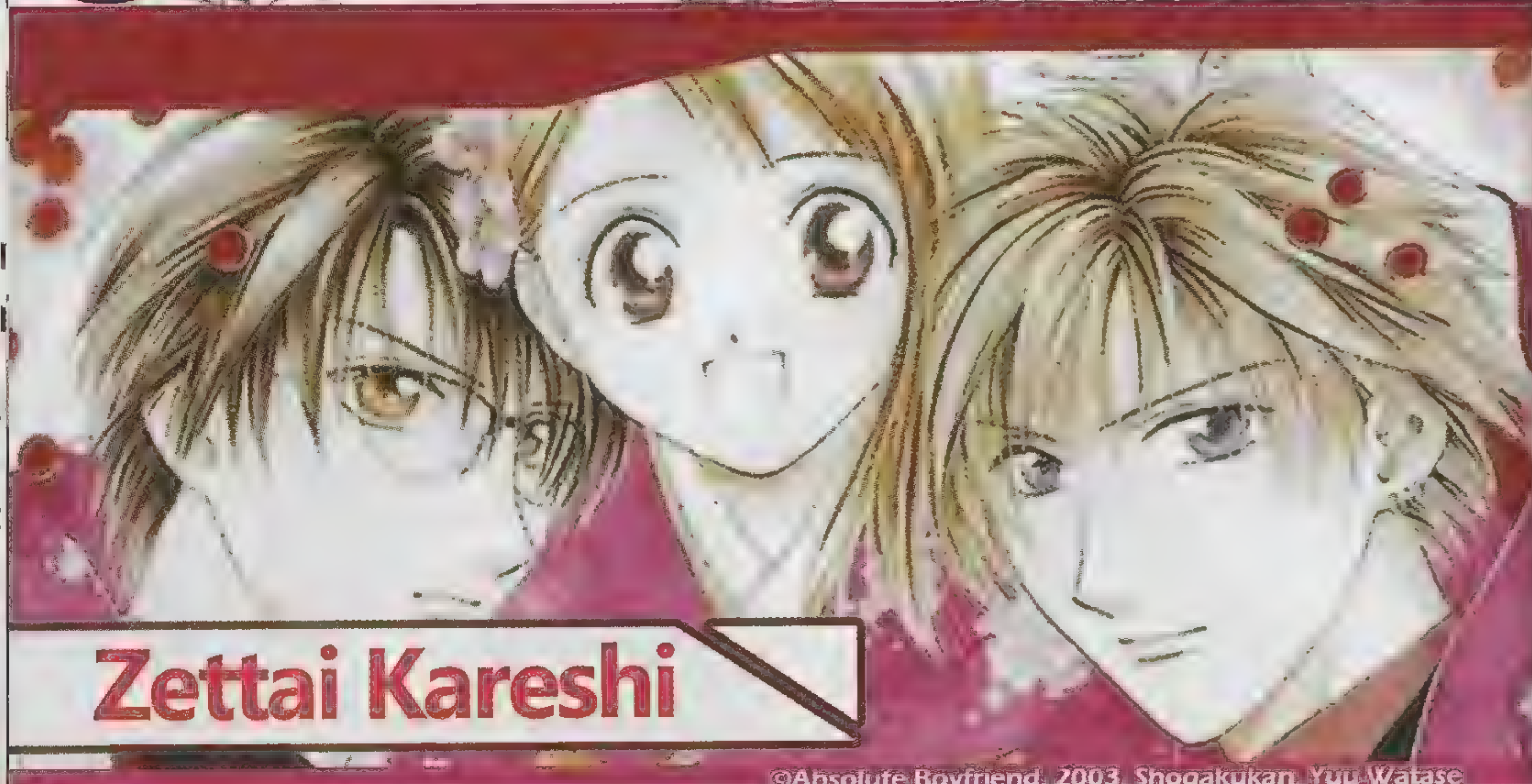
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Cosplayer: Liui Aquino
Costume and Wig: Cosmic Bytes Cosplay Shop
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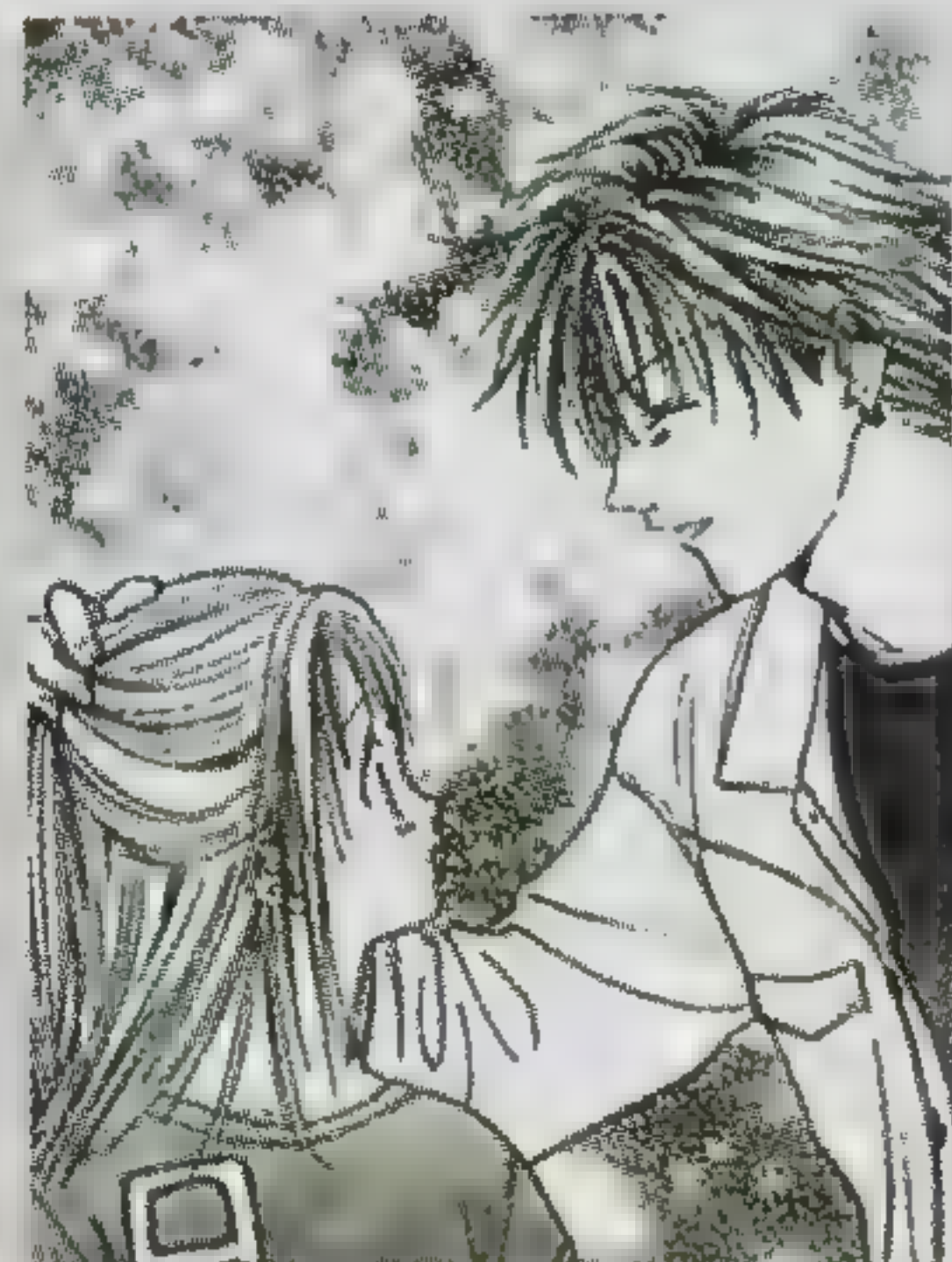


Zettai Kareshi

©Absolute Boyfriend, 2003, Shogakukan, Yuu Watase

CRASH! You hear the sound of a breaking glass. You turn around but no one hears the breaking. You wonder, 'How many times do I have to experience this?' You hear the glass being broken into more tiny pieces, but no one around you is really paying attention to it. Then you realize, 'Oh, that's the sound of my heart, breaking.'

How many times have you fallen for someone, only to be repeatedly rejected at the same time? Can you count it in one hand? Or is it already too many to count?



The story centers around Riiko Izawa who has been rejected a lot of times. After being rejected for the nth time, she finds herself checking a website, given to her by a weird salesman, which lets you try their humanoid product for 3 days free. Their humanoid product happens to be a real hottie and she decided to try it. Upon the delivery, she did not expect that it would be real and decides to just try it nonetheless. Naming her boyfriend Night, she experiences what every girl would have wished to experience in this lifetime from her boyfriend.

Zettai Kareshi a.k.a. **Absolute Boyfriend** is written by Yu Watase. Coming from the highly acclaimed creator of 'Fushigi Yuugi' and 'Ayashi no Ceres', this manga is perfect for those who are looking for more of those *dokidoki* moments.

Consisting of six volumes, the manga has also been adapted into a live action series. The live action actually has two versions, which are the Japanese and Taiwanese version. Though it is the same plot, the adaptations evolved into different settings and even endings.

Zettai Kareshi inspires readers in finding a relationship that will definitely make them happy; and doing the best of what they can possibly do for their own partners.

As for the hopeless romantics, do you think Riiko will find the love she's searching with her Absolute Boyfriend?



Married Life of the Past Otoyomegatari

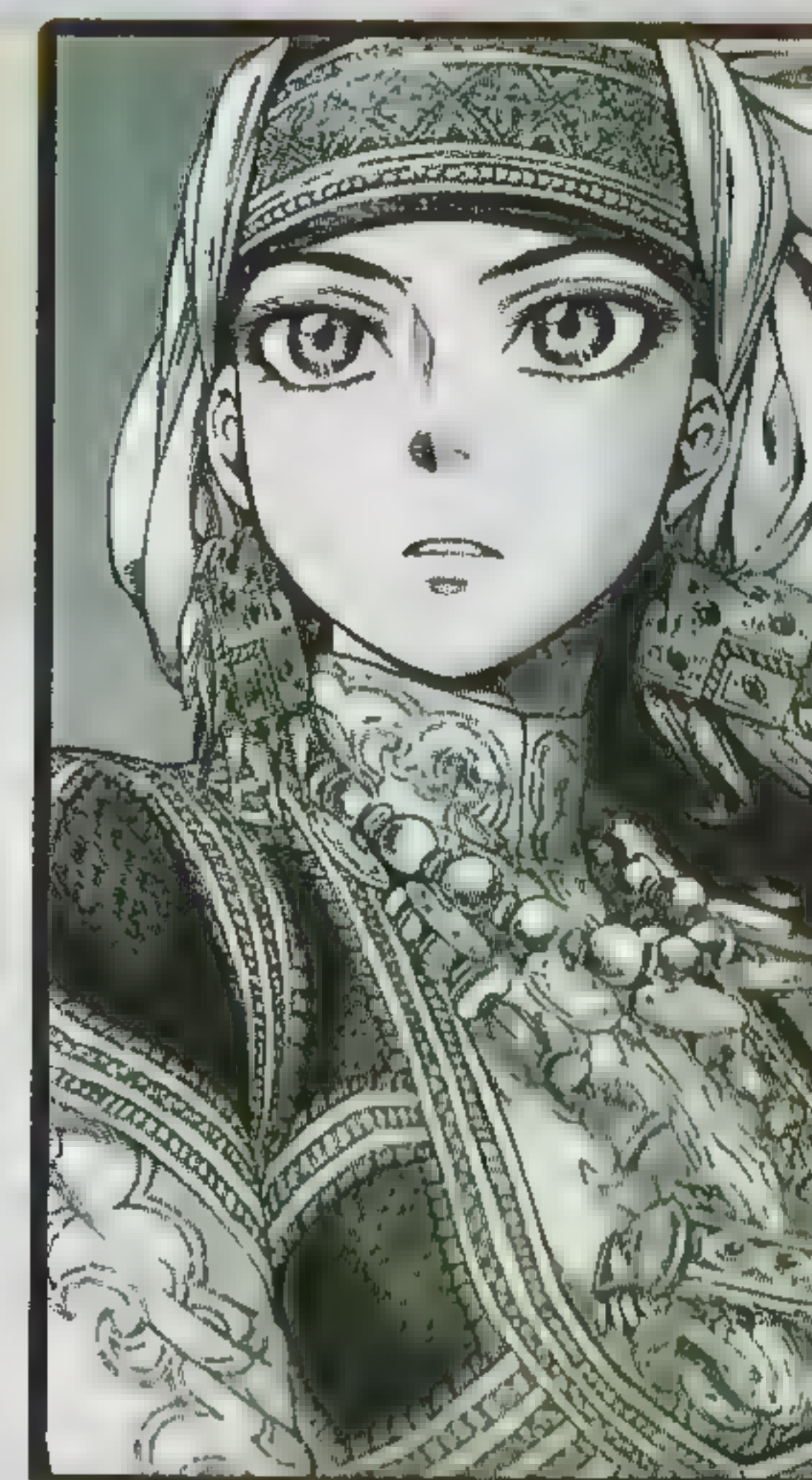
In the nineteenth century Asia, people welcome arranged marriages with open arms. The beautiful Amira is sent by her family to a neighboring town in order to marry her fiancé. To her surprise, Amira's soon-to-be husband is eight years younger than her, which made things a bit awkward at first. But as they spend their days together, Amira grew fond of the boy and his family as well as learning more about each other's culture.

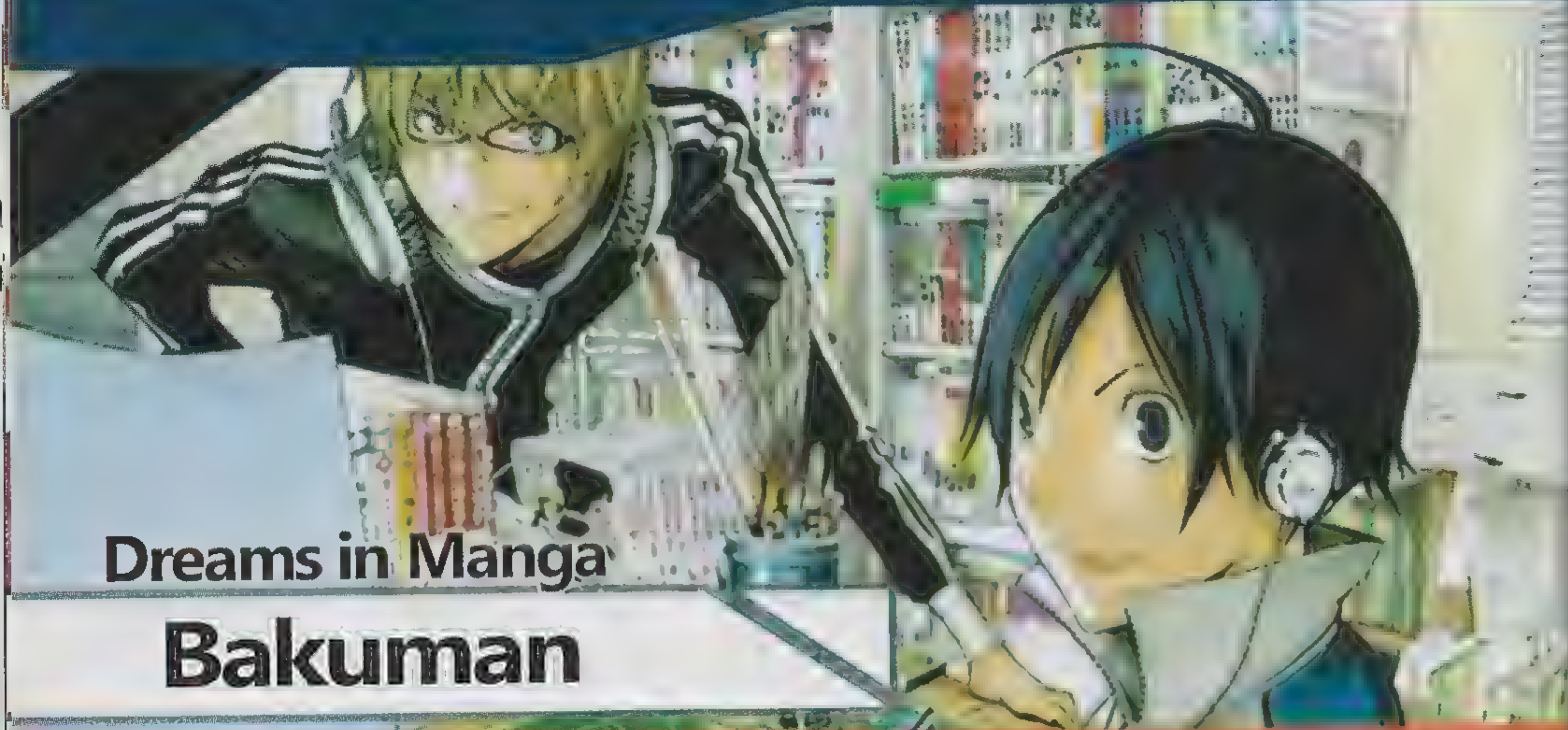
Otoyomegatari is an on-going seinen manga by Kaoru Mori in Harta since October 2008.

Otoyomegatari is an episodic manga that focuses on Amira's married life with Karluk while trying to adapt to unfamiliar traditions and cuisine. The manga's depiction of 19th century Central Asia is very impressive. You can see the result of the author's intensive research about Central Asia to her piece such as the complex embroidery being passed down from generation to generation, wood carving and the idea that most women in this era are willing to be married to someone their parents decided for them. The artstyle is very mesmerizing to the point that even the most simple hand gesture looks so elegant in our eyes.

Among the characters in Otoyomegatari, Amira gives a very strong impression to the readers. In addition to her beauty and strong-willed personality, Amira's amazing talent in embroidery and cooking as well as being caring and loving makes her the perfect wife for Karluk. She is also a talented hunter—which is uncommon for women in this era.

Otoyomegatari isn't just a manga about how couples in the 19th century Central Asia live their lives. The story gradually moves over to their surrounding characters, focusing on the subject of marriage. While romance in this piece isn't as strong as expected, the slice-of-life part is something to look forward for every chapter.





Dreams in Manga Bakuman

© Bakuman, 2008, Shueisha, Tsugumi Ohbat

We all have dreams that we want to achieve someday. But to make it a reality, we have to place our bets in a gambling game called "life".



To Moritaka Mashiro, his uncle was his inspiration to become a mangaka, but not until he died because of the same profession he tried to pursue. Years later, Akito Takagi, a talented storywriter and classmate, managed to rekindle Moritaka's desire to follow his uncle's footsteps by helping him confess his feelings to Miho Azuki, who in-turn confesses that she feels the same. However, Miho imposes a very important requirement before Moritaka can have her hand for marriage.

Since that fateful day, Moritaka and Akito is more than determined to have their manga get an anime adaptation using the penname "Ashirogi Muto" while Miho works hard to become a voice actress who will provide the voice for the duo's main heroine.

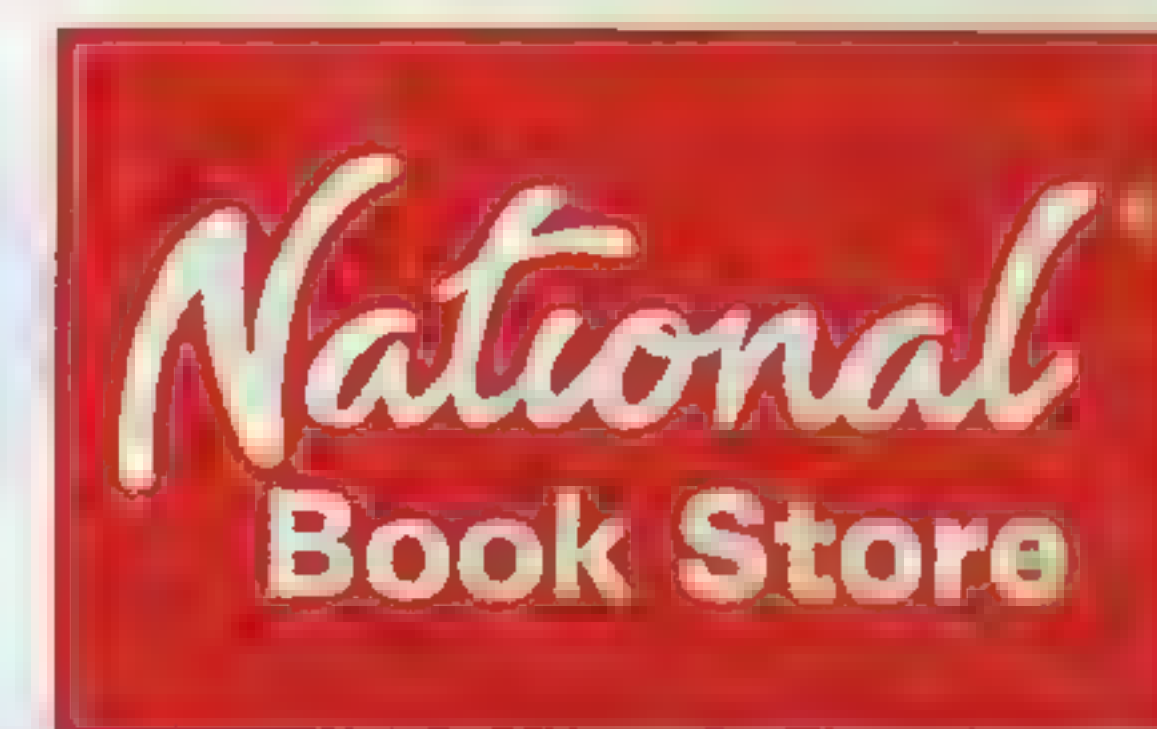
Follow Moritaka and Akito as they overcome various challenges that hinders them from achieving their dreams while making new friends and rivals in the manga industry!

Bakuman is a shounen manga made by the duo behind the ever popular *Death Note*, Takeshi Obata and Tsugumi Ohba in *Shounen Jump* from August 2008 to April 2012 with a total of 176 chapters and a one shot spin-off manga titled "Rakkou 11-gou" (Otters 11) based from a fictional manga in *Bakuman*. A 3-season anime adaptation produced by J.C. Staff ran for a total of 75 episodes from 2010 to 2013.

Bakuman is a manga series that gives both inspiration and knowledge about the manga industry for aspiring manga artists someday. It's also recommended for people who are curious about what happens when your favorite manga becomes an anime or had to end abruptly.

otaku asia

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Journey Towards Cooking Maestro!

Shokugeki no Soma

© Food Wars: Shokugeki no Soma, 2012, Shueisha, Yūto Tsukuda

Everyone has big dreams at one point in their lives, but what if the way to your dreams takes an unexpected detour? Well, for one such boy, that detour might just be his road to be a master! Looking for a show that features one such hotshot, complete with mouth-watering dishes and cooking battles? Food Wars: Shokugeki no Soma might be the manga just for you!



Food Wars: Shokugeki no Soma chronicles the story of Souma Yukihara, son of a renowned chef. His dream, to surpass his father and take over the restaurant as a chef, is something that he has not had much success with. It was then that the restaurant gets shut down by his father that leaves him with a new challenge. He must enter and survive an elite culinary school in order to become a top-class chef and to make things tougher for our hero; the school has a notoriously low retention rate! What will become of our underdog hero as he prepares to take the next step? The story of the next cooking prodigy begins.

Shokugeki no Soma is a manga published in Weekly Shounen Jump. Yuuto Tsukuda's ongoing series strikes a contrast to the several long-runners in the magazine, having its serialization begin in November 2012. English publications through Viz Media became available in early 2014, and it was very well-received.

This manga is an example of shounen manga done right. It has all the main ingredients for success: a hero for the readers to cheer on, an interesting plot, some hints at romance, a fair share of fanservice, and great action done in the form of cooking battles. Furthermore, this series delivers in the art department. Featuring Shun Saeki's art, you'll find yourself either liking the characters' appearances or becoming hungry at the beauty of the food presented in front of you.



A Journey of Self Discovery

Honey and Clover

© Honey and Clover, 2000, Shueisha, Chica Umino

College life could be treated as the peak of a person's adolescence where one steps into the boundaries of adulthood and exhibits individuality. It is one of the best parts of life you experience before you reach the turning point of becoming an adult. This is also the time you train hard to ready yourself for the professional world. For others, this is the time to make some of the biggest decisions in your life.

As for three guys namely: Yuta Takemoto, Takumi Mayama and Shinobu Morita; college life is just about to take a turn in their lives as these poor art students, from a college in Tokyo, face their daily lives and discover for themselves what love really is like.

Takemoto lives in a rundown apartment with Mayama and Morita. Yuta Takemoto's concern in life is how he could continue to live properly and go to classes, that is, before he met Hagumi Hanamoto. Like all big changes in life, this one happens to Yuta unexpectedly. A genius in a small body, Hagu (Hagumi), finds herself learning some things for the first time in her life. One of that is being drawn to Morita, who seems to be doing some shady business in order to earn money. As for Mayama, he is pining for an older woman. It also happens that a girl named Yamada likes Mayama.

'Honey and Clover' is a manga written and illustrated by Chica Umino and published in magazines which was later on compiled into ten volumes. This manga has won the 27th Kodansha Manga Award for Shoujo in 2003. It was then adapted into an anime by J.C. Staff with two seasons that was aired last 2005 and 2006 in Japan. It was also turned into a live action movie in Japan, and another live action drama that was aired in Taiwan.

Life takes an unexpected turn every now and then, and the characters of this manga just prove that despite the changes, you just have to make the best of everything and look forward to the unknown future.



*Fear turns a bigger profit
than friendship."*

- Shishio Makoto



RUROUNI KENSHIN

◆ THE LEGEND ENDS ◆

Himura Kenshin has long been at peace with his friends and acquaintances along his journey, and this is what he's truly aiming for. But as for Shishio, nothing is more priceless than instilling fear to people. Shishio Makoto believes that being hopeless and fearful will bring out the best in them to do the worst of things. He oppressed the poor and violently protested against the government. Himura Kenshin knows that this has to be stopped at the soonest time possible. He drowns and drowns, deeper into the sea, until he is miraculously washed off ashore. When Kyoto Inferno ends, the death of the legendary Hitokiri Battousai begins...



"What is it that you lack?" This question is perhaps very easy for some people to answer as generally, it is much easier to list one's weaknesses than strengths. But for Himura Kenshin who is full of honor and exceptionally erudite of samurai pride, especially now that he is a free swordsman, there is no room for flaws. Shishio Makoto has caused havoc in Kyoto and other major cities in Japan, and Himura Kenshin must defeat him and his army before the evil genius takes more cities and lives.

Kenshin then seeks the help of his master, his life at risk in the formidable training he has to undergo to eventually learn the final technique that is Heavenly Flying Dragon. Consequently, Kenshin has to go back to his roots in order to find what he needs to work on, something necessary to defeat his own successor. What can possibly be Himura Kenshin, the great samurai's weakness? And upon finding this fact about himself, will he still be able to escape all the traps intentionally set for him?

Rurouni Kenshin: The Legend Ends is the last installment of the trilogy live-action adaptation of the popular manga, Rurouni Kenshin by Nobuhiro Watsuki. Directed by Otomo Keishi and distributed by Warner Bros., Rurouni Kenshin: The Legend Ends is a tale of a samurai's battling inner conflict to defeat brutal external forces in the time of war.

Choreography: 10/10

Just as there is no room for flaws for the Legendary Swordsman, there is no room for breathing in this live-action adaptation "Rurouni Kenshin: The Legend Ends". The choreography is so overwhelming that it would literally take your breath away. Imagine yourself already at the edge of your seat by the opening fight sequence, and for every sheathing of the sword, punch in the gut, kick on the side, and determined faces getting dirtier would almost send you standing on your two feet and shout out loud, "This is amazing." Anyone would attest, the circular motion from tree to tree that Kenshin does without dropping a sweat, just like how a bunny hops from grass to grass so effortlessly, is the audience's most favorite Himura Kenshin trademark action. And no matter how many times you see it in every fight sequence, it just gets better. It is definitely not a recycled action; there is a different tinge to it regardless of whom Kenshin battles with.



The most surprising of all, however, is Sanosuke. He does appear to be throwing a fit and fists randomly every time Kenshin disappears from his vision, but his action scenes are no joke.

Every actor in this movie who has to play the fighter and the soldier roles has offered deadly fight scenes that the audience would truly appreciate and drop a jaw at!

Story: 9/10

It is apparent that a lot of screen time has been dedicated to Kenshin's rigid training under the tutelage of his master, Hiko Seijuro XIII. Some people are actually protesting that it is Shishio Makoto who should have been the focus of this arc by showing how true of a genius he is. But following the main premise of the movie which is "finding Himura Kenshin's weakness" and transforming his motivation to fight, it is necessary to establish Kenshin's problem and finding the solution for it by going through a lot of fight with his master. This has greatly manifested in his invigorated state after learning the final technique. As Aoshi said, "You've become much faster, Battousai."

Additionally, for the Rurouni Kenshin manga enthusiasts, the portrayal of Juppongatana in the movie may be quite disappointing. Each of them is supposed to portray a significant role. It is true that they were introduced quite flashily in Kyoto Inferno, and they haven't been in the limelight for a long period of time in The Legend Ends either.

However, as director Keishi Otomo said before, the original plot will not ruin all the endless possibilities of showing how powerful Kenshin is against Shishio's team in the plot with twists and turns he has intended to show.

Nevertheless, with or without the knowledge of the manga or anime, it's still considered the best live-action adaptation of an anime in this era.

Casting: 10/10

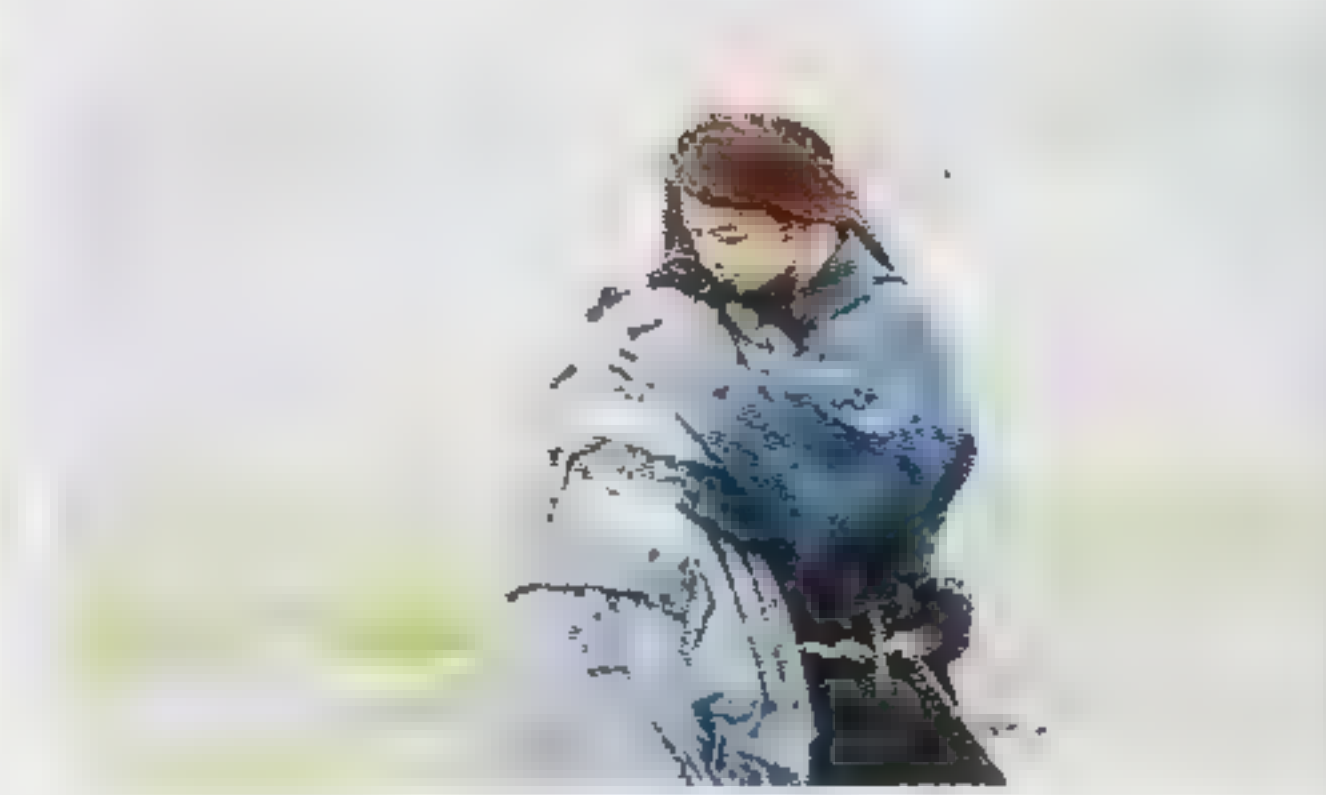
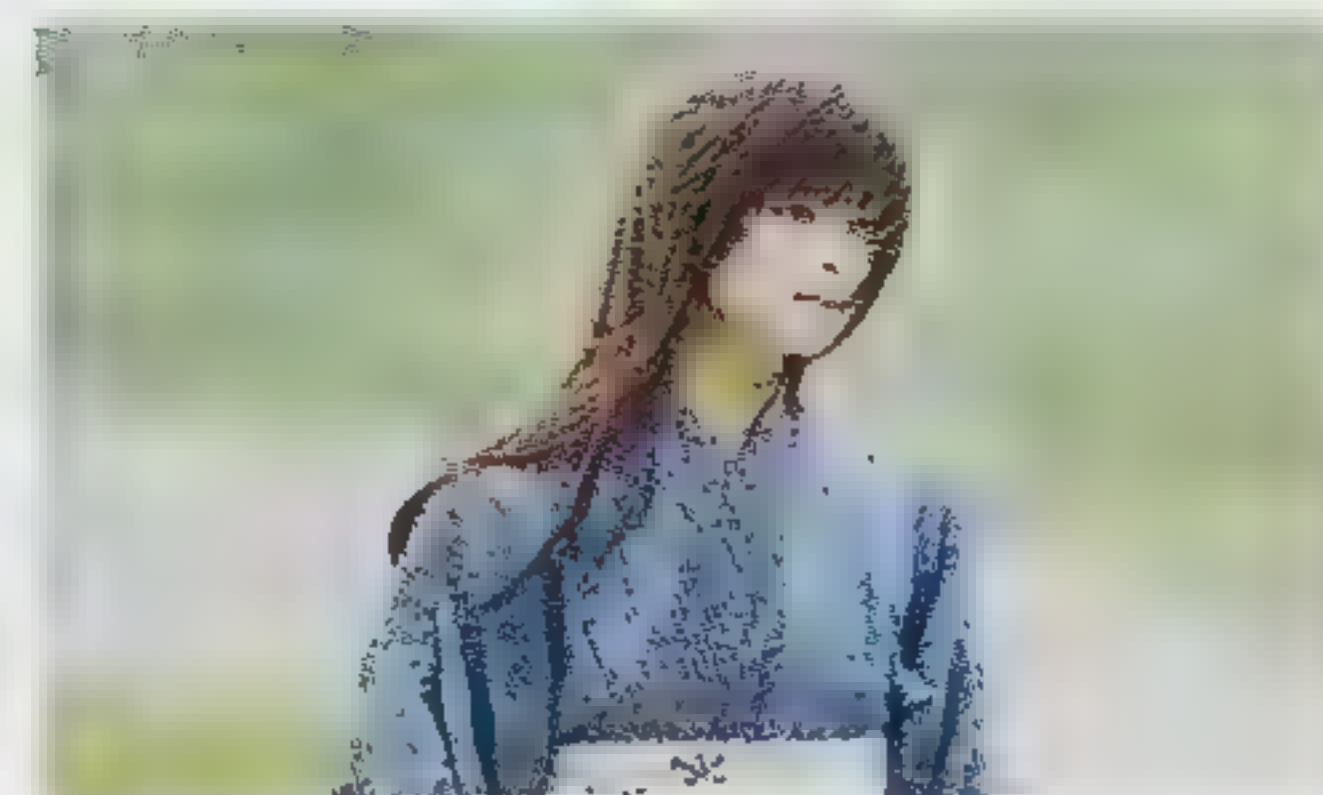
Takeru has indeed been the best choice for Himura Kenshin in this movie, and he still is. Serious look and sharp look, he does it successfully as Kenshin. While there are not any "Oro?" moments in the Legend Ends except once when he was about to have a "legendary exit" courtesy of the government, it is still very Kenshin-like. Not to mention Kenshin's fighting style, Takeru Satoh is indeed Kenshin brought to life. Iseya Yusuke as Aoshi Shinomori is also perfect for the role. People find Aoshi's character both annoying and entertaining, but impressed otherwise of Yusuke because the way he wields two swords considering his injuries is worth more than ten years of practice.

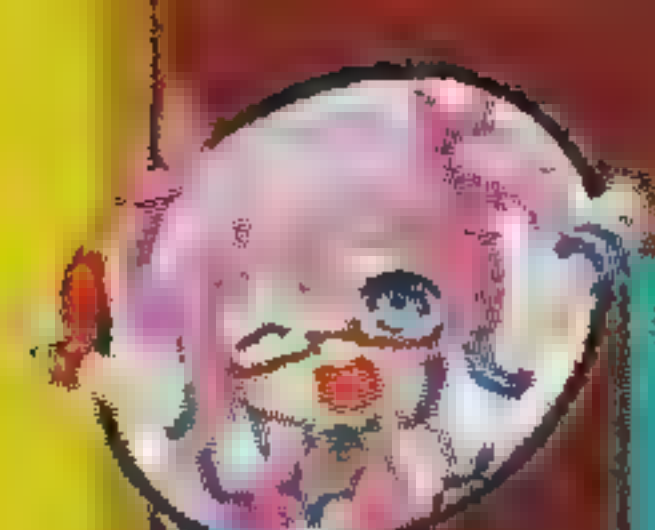
Once again, we see the soft side of Kamiya Kaoru (Takei Emi) and the fierce side of Takani Megumi (Yuu Aoi) in this installment. These two made the balance in the movie's overall nature: Kaoru being the sweet sunflower every time she appears, and Megumi being the tough wildflower who is ready to fight. Meanwhile, Tsuchiya Tao as Misao showed her acting prowess in The Legend Ends. You can tell by her facial expressions her emotion at that moment, as easy as one-two-three.

Kamiki Ryuunosuke (Seta Soujiro) lets loose in this movie. He perfectly portrayed Soujiro's character in a beautiful mess, an indication that cold-hearted people could breakdown anytime.

The most remarkable performance was of Fujiwara Tatsuya as Shishio Makoto, starting from the voice, the evil look behind the bandages, and the diabolic laugh, he is indeed the best villain turned into ashes. The way he struggled against his enemies were frustrating and pitiful at the same time. It is weird to have such a feeling towards a villain, but Tatsuya was able to induce this.

Our generation is indeed very lucky to have experienced an amazing trilogy based on a manga we all grew up with. Rurouni Kenshin: The Legend Ends is a proof that weaknesses can be transformed into strengths and change the world in the most unexpected way.





GAMER'S ARENA

An Encore for a Rhythm of Chaos,

from a Cosmos Filled with Fantasy

THEATRHYTHM FINAL FANTASY

CURTAIN CALL™

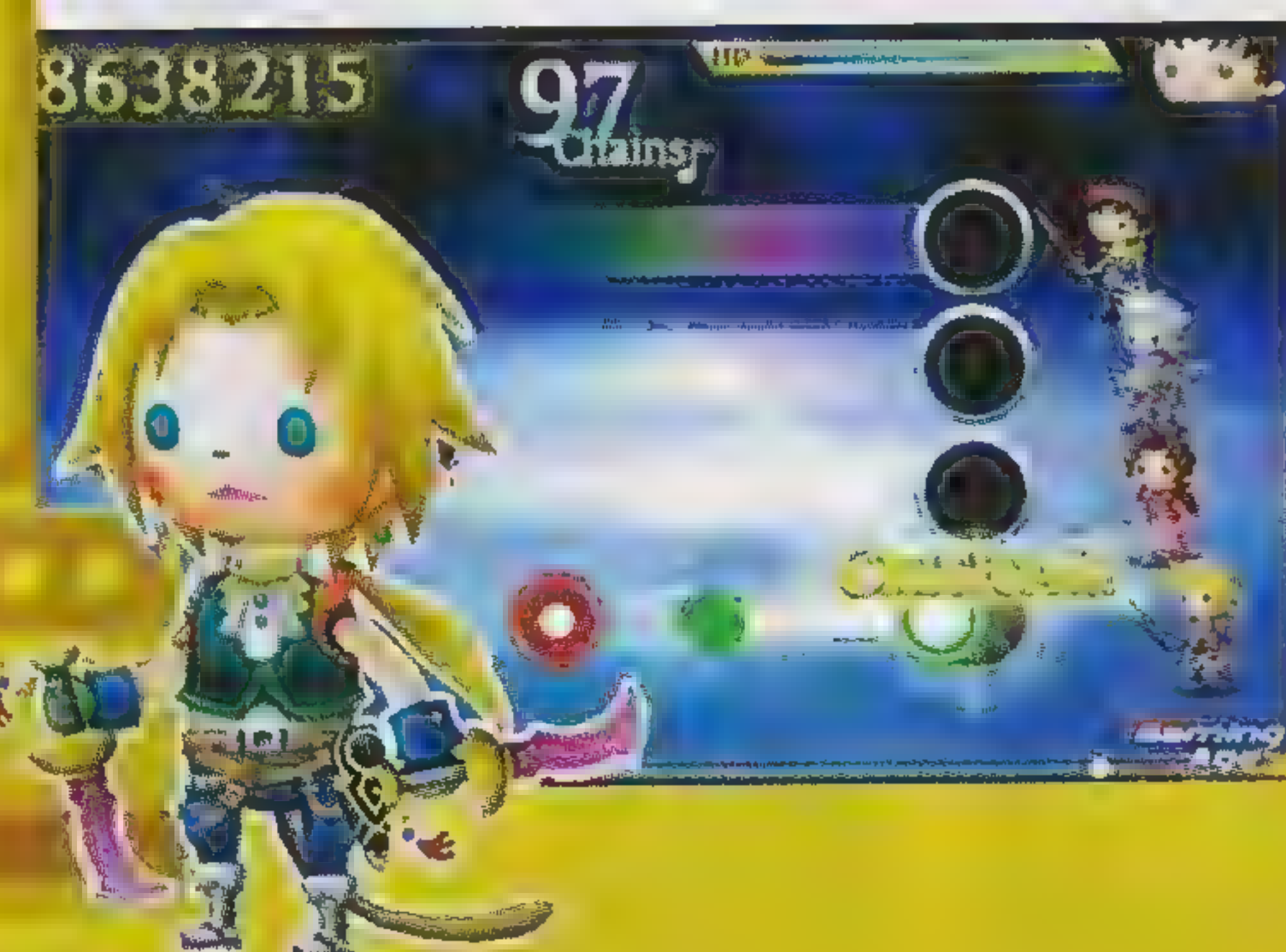
Final Fantasy is one of the most famous RPGs around, and had invaded quiet a number of consoles, which might also serve as a trademark for the said genre that has been with us from its very first released way back in 1987. The franchise features a continuously evolving style that has somewhat influenced and is still spearheading the world of role playing games. Just imagine that super power with a wide range of fans worldwide bumping into the world of rhythm games. That wild idea actually had already been realized and gave birth to Theatrhythm Final Fantasy and has now given rise to its enhanced sequel; Theatrhythm Final Fantasy: Curtain Call.

Now let's delve deeper into this new world with a mixture of fantasy and music.

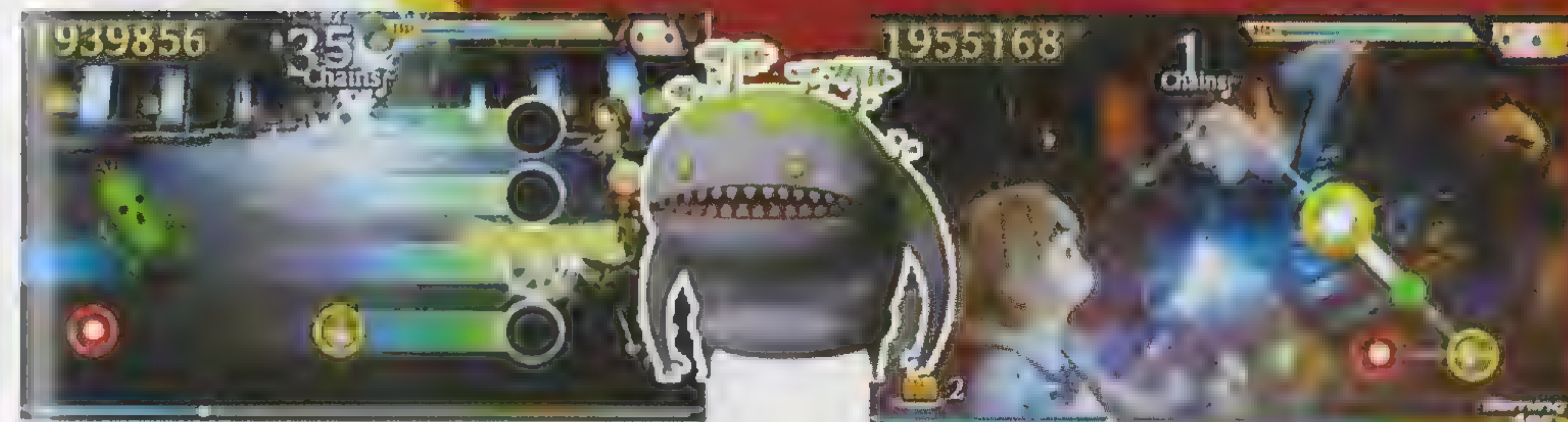
Theatrhythm Final Fantasy: Curtain Call is a single to multiplayer rhythm action game from Square Enix and is a sequel to Theatrhythm Final Fantasy which is exclusive for the Nintendo 3DS. The game features all-time favorite Final Fantasy music, BMGs and original sound tracks brought by iconic composers and song writers.

Theatrhythm also incorporates many different characters from almost all Final Fantasy released games that we have welcomed since its first release.

Theatrhythm was developed by indieszero for the 3DS platform and like every game in the Final Fantasy franchise, is published by none other than Square Enix. Curtain call was first announced in Shonen Jump is also the last Theatrhythm game that will be released, though there are still many downloadable contents that will be released for the game.



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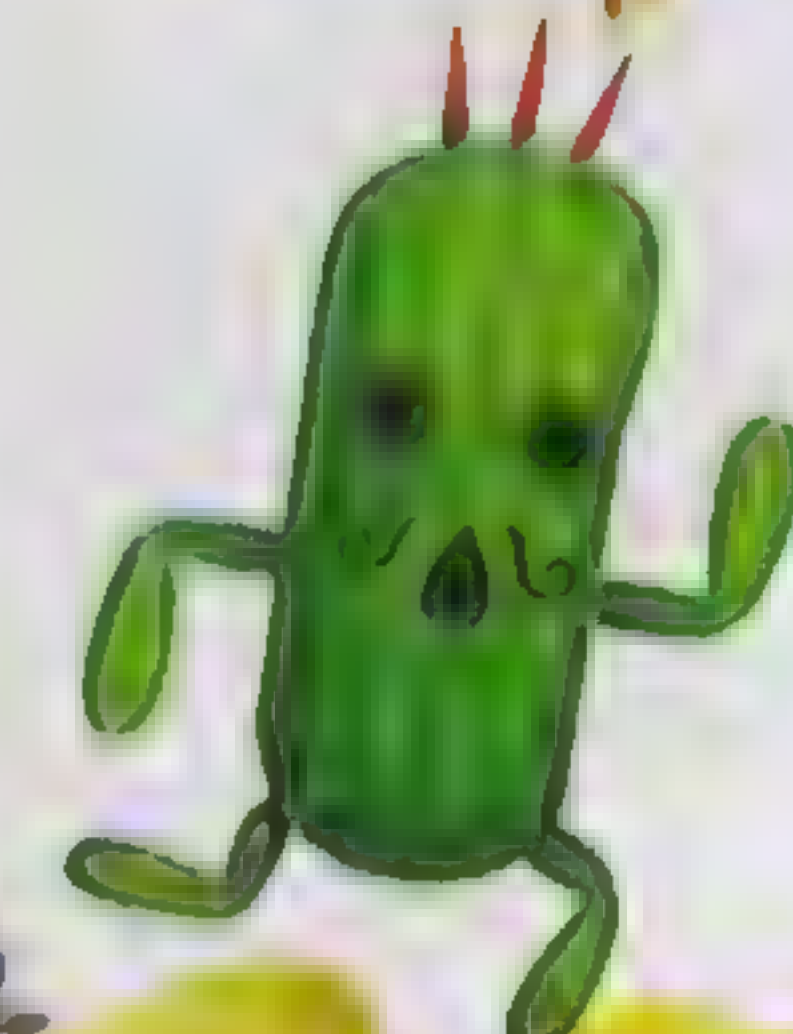
The gameplay is quite simple, like most rhythm games; you tap, slide and hold notes while battling enemies using the stylus. The player's hit point depletes whenever he/she fails to execute the correct actions for each note and fully depleted HP will of course lead to a Game Over. Theatrhythm also incorporates the level-up system that would help propel you through different game modes such as the Quest Medley and Versus Battles.

Theatrhythm currently features a total of 271 songs, 50 of which are downloadable contents, which were taken from the main games and various spin-offs. The game's main art style for the character's avatars are based from Kingdom Hearts Mobile, Kingdom Hearts Re:coded and Final Fantasy Airborne. Among all Final Fantasy titles, Curtain Call currently holds the record for the most playable characters; with over 65 characters to choose from without counting characters with generic job class.

Players will surely be filled with excitement and delight as they listen to their nostalgic Final Fantasy tune while utilizing their dream party and battling it out with the most villainy boss characters. Players may also relive some of the most famous and trademark Final Fantasy battles where their favorite characters duke it out with their arch nemesis.

Despite the cute and lovable feeling brought by the minimized characters, the game still exudes an elegant and refine aura that pushes the players to keep tapping those note until the perfect every stage. Theatrhythm brings forth enjoyment not only for fans of Final Fantasy or RPGs but also avid Rhythm gamers from around the world all the while harboring positive response from both east and west. After melding action and music together, the Final Fantasy hype definitely shows no sign of stopping which always keeps us wondering:

"what would they introduce next?"





The SIMS 4



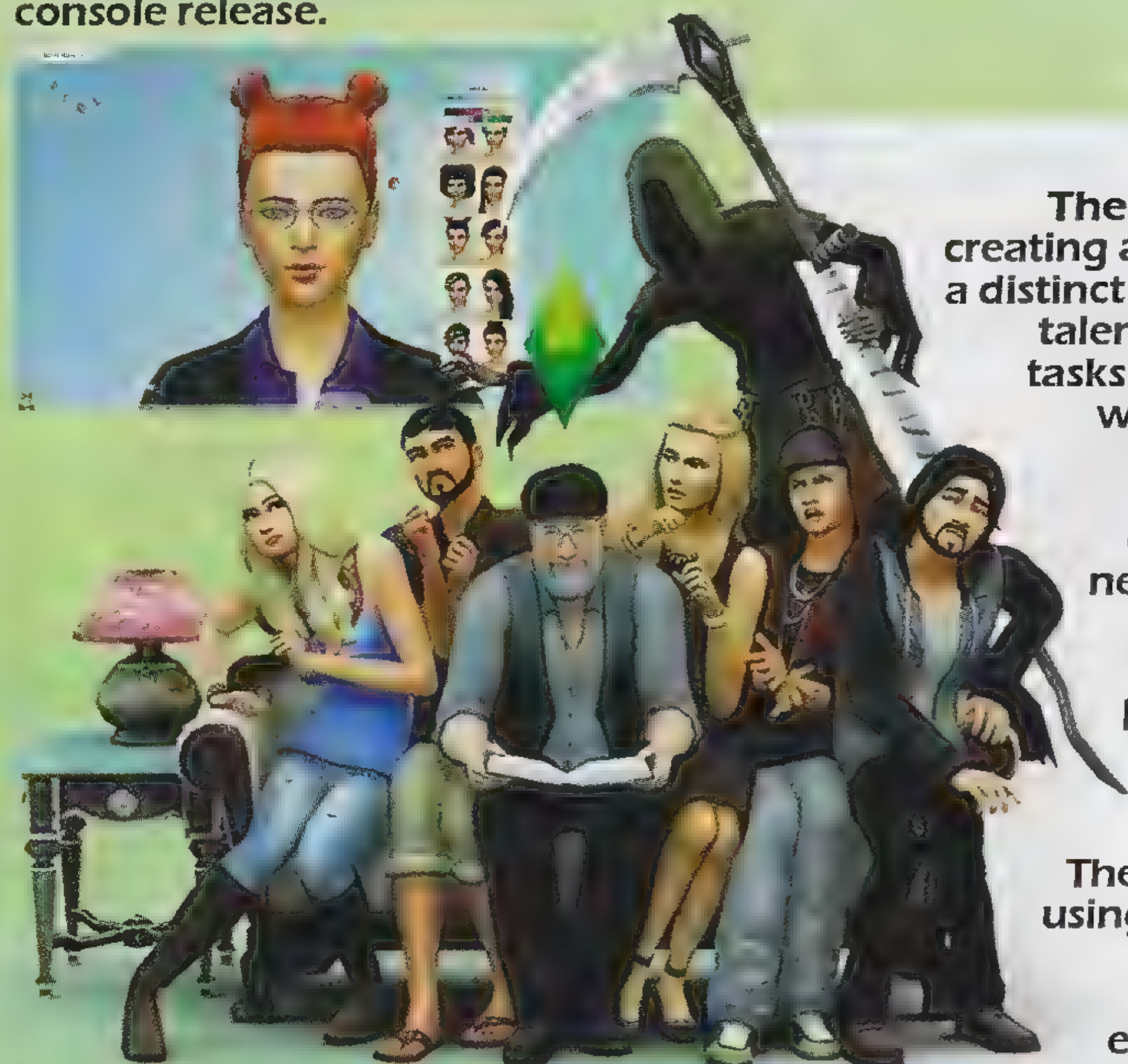
Smarter Sims, Weirder Stories

By Reikisha

The Sims is a very addicting life simulation game where you, the player, have the right to dictate the fate of every sim living in your virtual world. Building houses, forming relationships and starting a family are the key elements that made The Sims one of the best-selling games of all time. Thanks to its popularity, it has spawned numerous sequels and spin-offs over the years.

This 2014, the fourth main installment of The Sims series is now available to play!

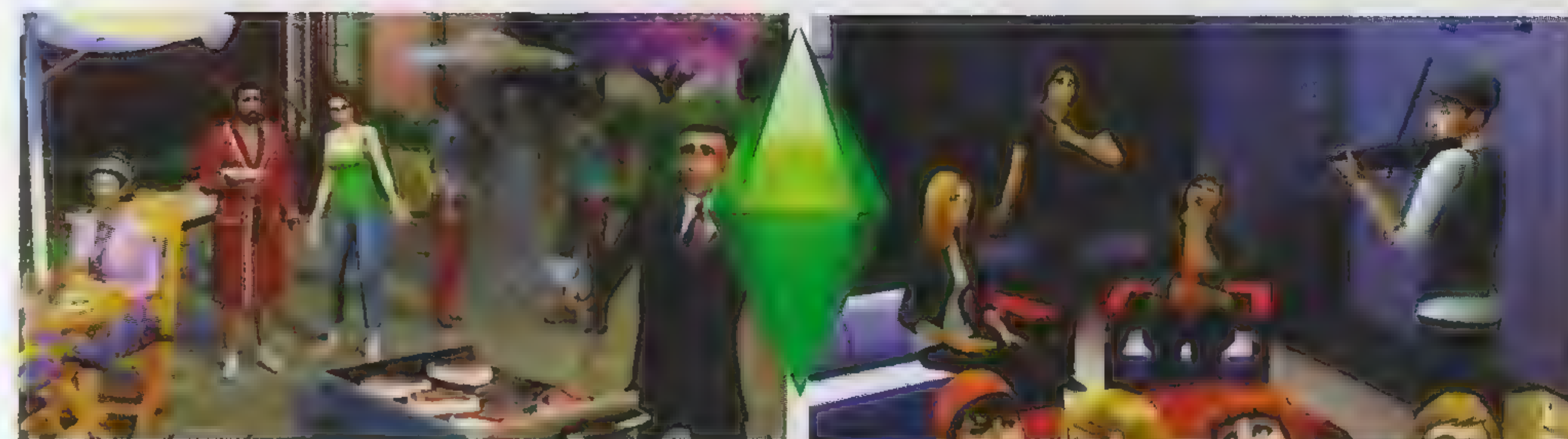
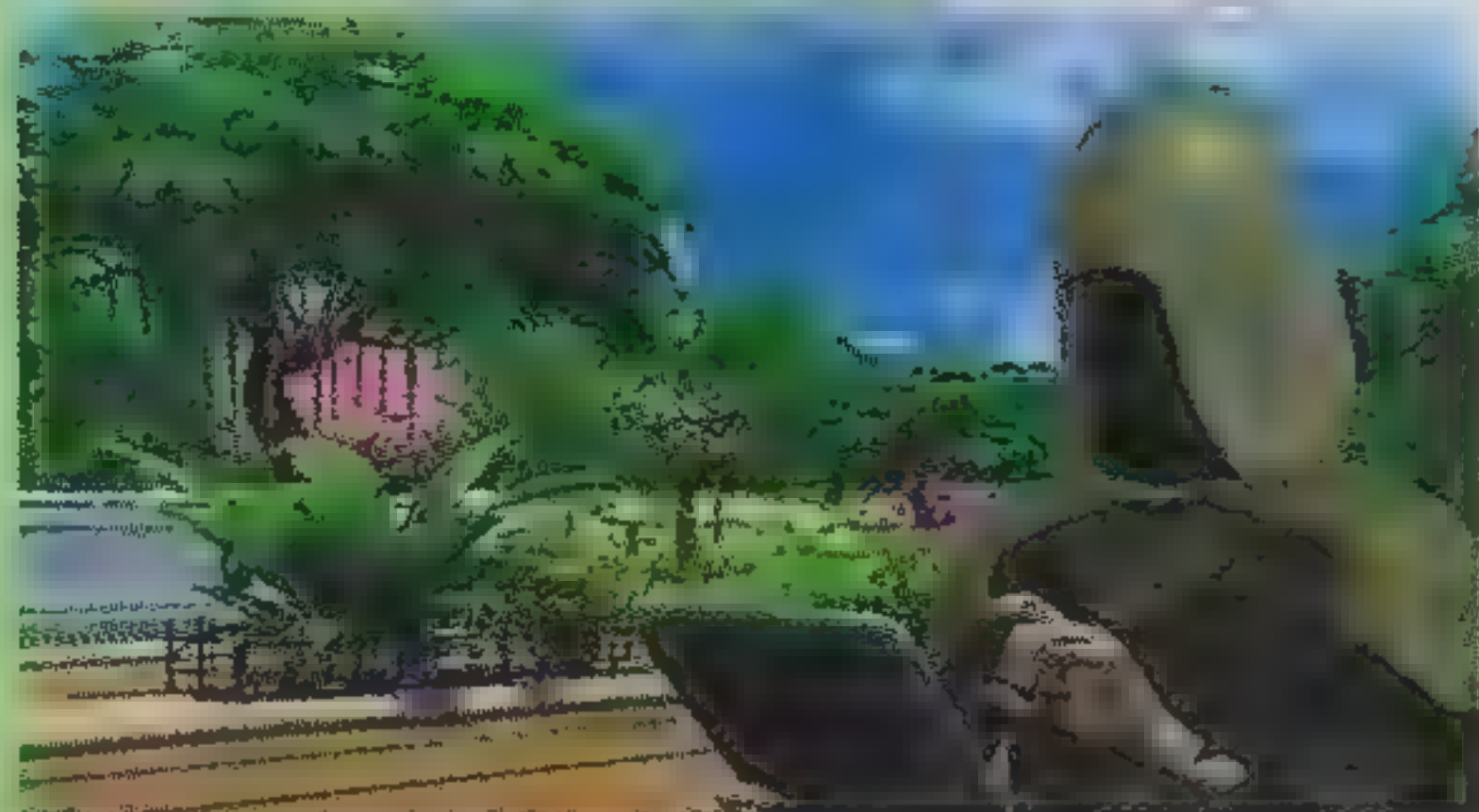
The Sims 4 is developed by EA Maxis and The Sims Studio and published by Electronic Arts. The game was originally announced on May 6, 2013, and was first released in North America on September 2, 2014 for Microsoft Windows. A Mac version has been confirmed, but its release date remains unknown, and has no plans of having a console release.



Gameplay

The Sims 4 starts with the player creating a sim character that can have a distinct personality, appearance and talents. Sims can now do multiple tasks such as playing video games while chatting with a friend or checking out the internet via smartphone while sitting comfortably in the toilet. The newest addition to the game is the complex emotion system that supports the character's personality traits, resulting in a much more realistic interactions between sims.

The game removes the hassle of using sliders. All the player needs to do is to click and drag the mouse in order to adjust everything from body parts to furnitures. Build mode is now improved in this sequel as it uses the click-and-drag system to resize or adjust how big or small everything in the house will be.

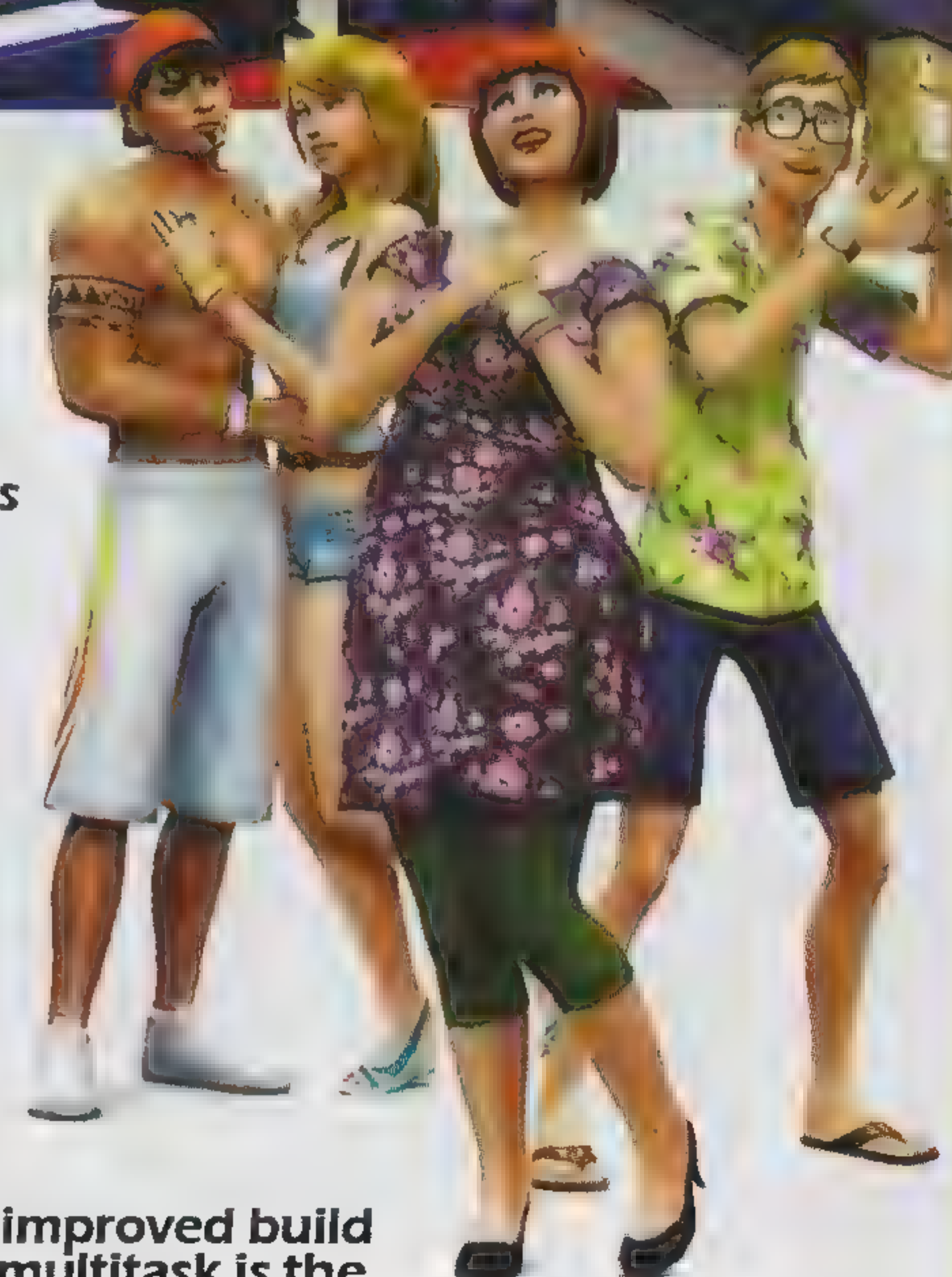


Review

Despite the improved graphics, easier customization tools and a brand new emotion-based gameplay, The Sims 4 turns out to be a disappointing sequel. A huge chunk of features that should've been in the game has been omitted in the game such as the open-world feature, the Create A Style system, swimming pools, cars and the toddler life stage. With those out of The Sims 4, the game now feels less like a realistic life simulation game than it should be.

On the brighter side, the emotion system that allows your sims to express themselves more clearly, improved build mode and the ability to multitask is the only saving grace the game has for now. It may have lost some of its core features, The Sims 4 is still fun to play because it's interesting to see how emotions can affect your sims' actions whether they're alone or with a group. Creating a house from scratch is much easier than before, saving the players a huge amount of time from designing the ideal house for their sims to live in. And lastly, multitasking is a godsend to every sims player worldwide as doing multiple tasks at once boosts two or three categories instead of concentrating to one task at a time.

All in all, The Sims 4 is a decent game capable of making its players spend hours to see their sims living their lives inside a virtual neighborhood. As the core features that were supposed to be present in this sequel has been removed, it's hard to say that The Sims 4 is worth buying right now. If you want to experience the things that could've made this sequel better, The Sims 3 is a good alternative while you wait for the developers to release a patch or an expansion pack containing the basic features.



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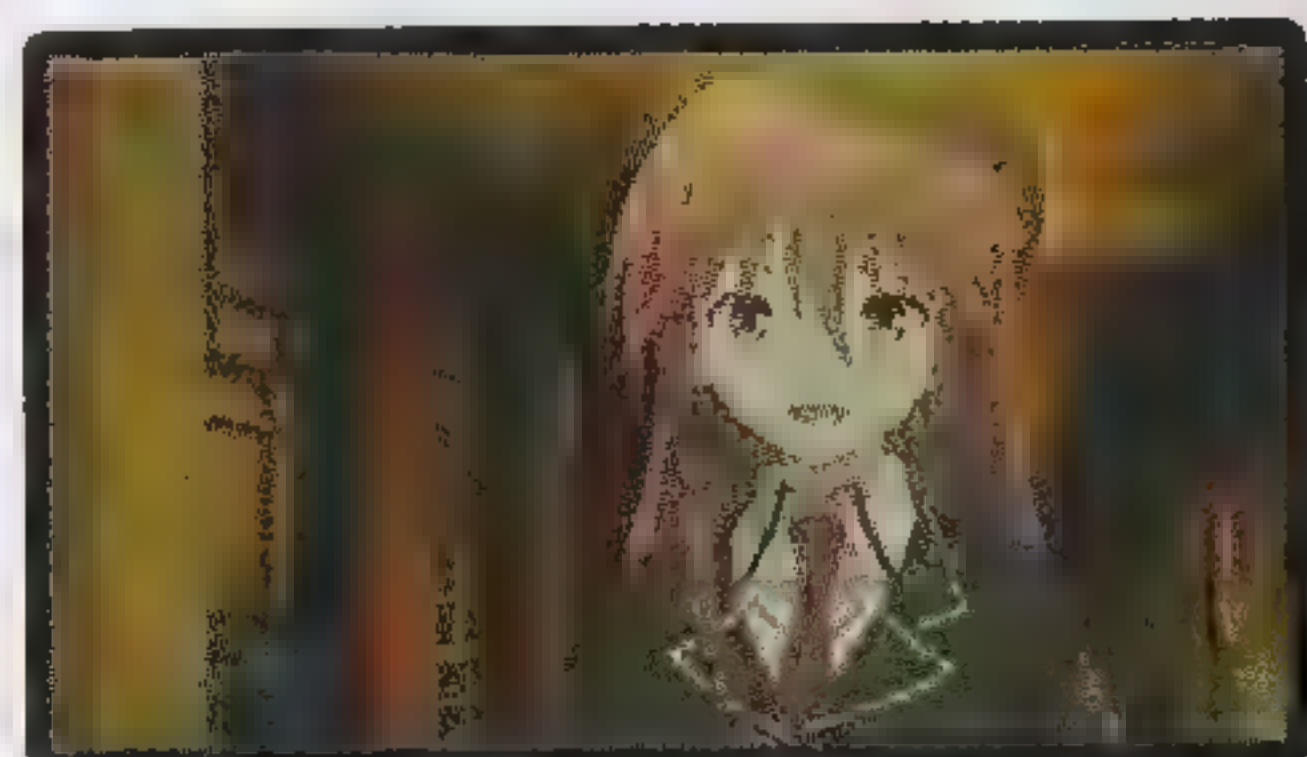
REVIEWS

written by James

Seven Mage's Heaven

Trinity Seven

Normal life may be boring and repetitive at times, but its saneness is something I will miss if it becomes disrupted. And if the only way to get back that normalcy is by becoming a mage, then count me in. Time to brush up on the arcane arts; this is **Trinity Seven: 7-Nin no Mahoutsukai**.



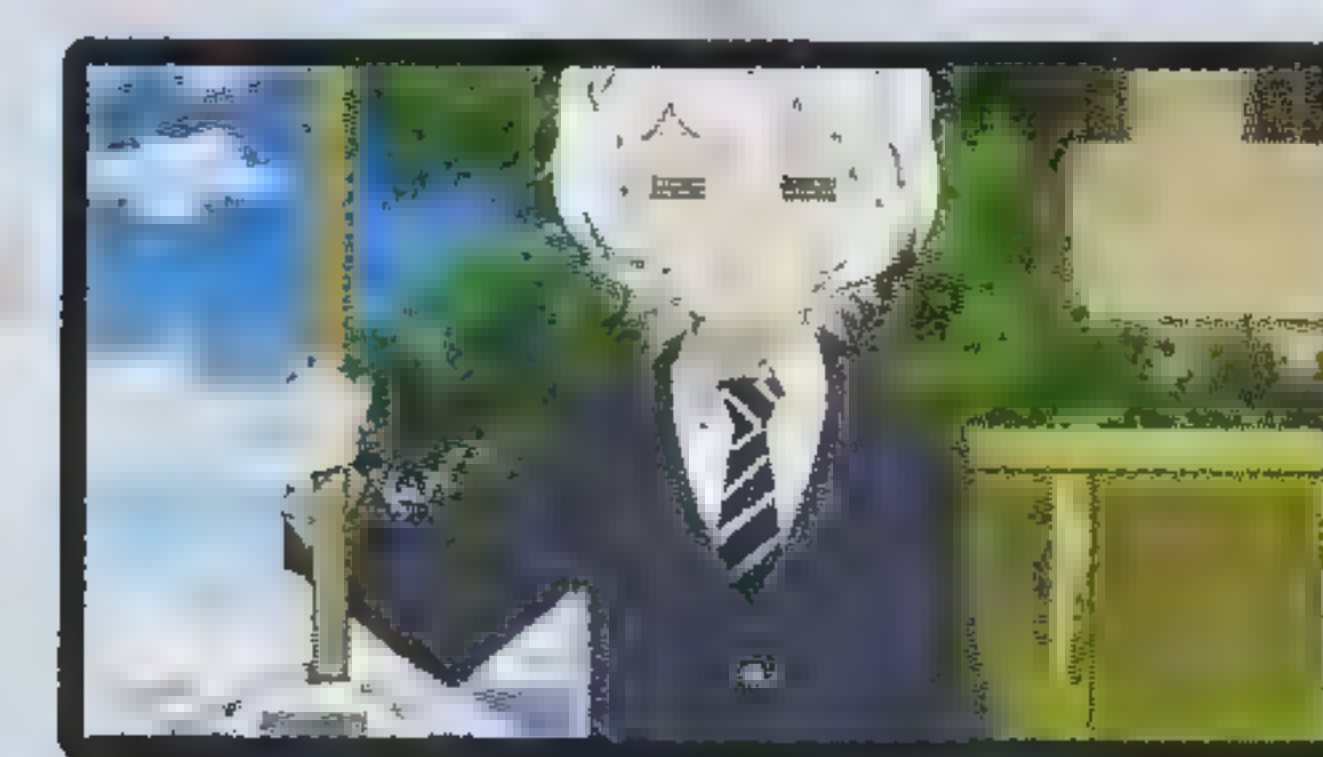
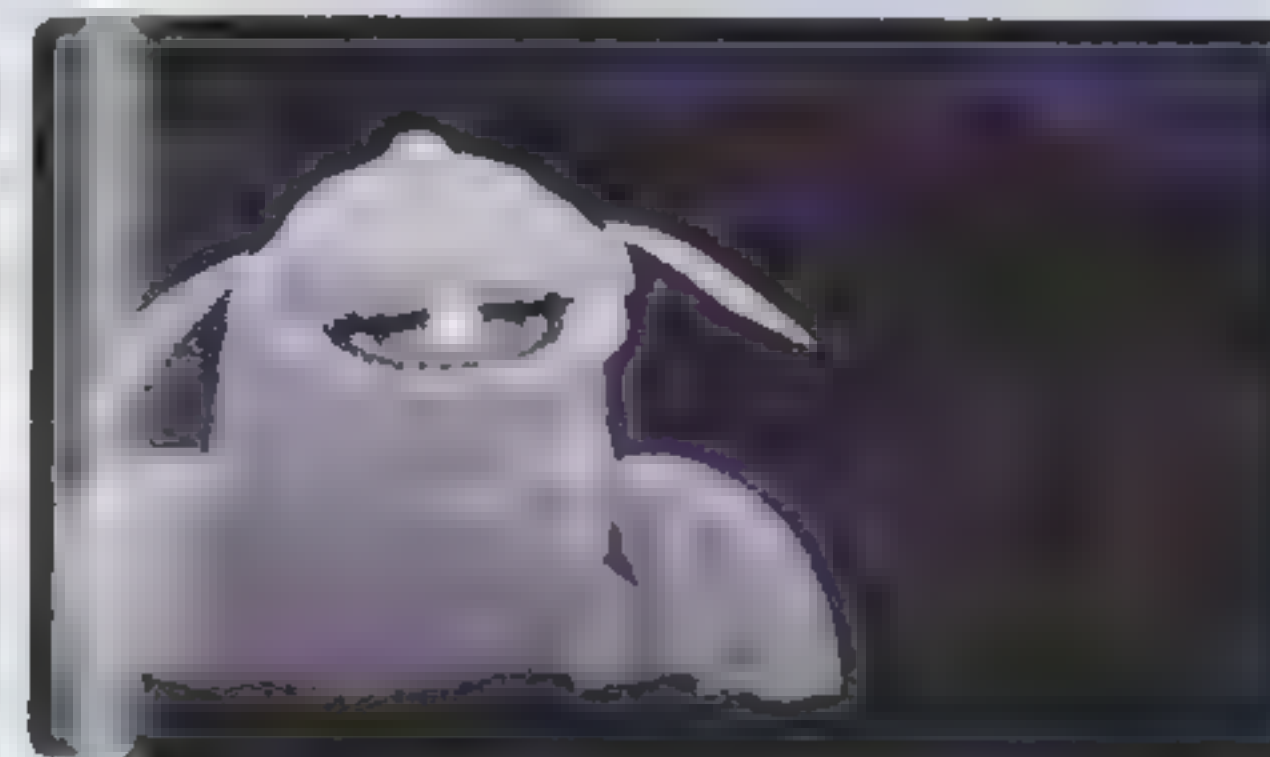
Based on the popular manga by author **Kenji Saitou** and artist **Akinari Nao**, Trinity Seven is about **Arata Kasuga**, an ordinary high school student living an ordinary life in a not-so-ordinary setup, as he shares his living space with his childhood friend and cousin **Hijiri**. One day, Kasuga notices that the sun has become black, and to make matters worse, a girl threatens to kill him. The same girl, **Azami Lilith**, turns up at school, gives the same warning, and adds that he is living in a made-up world and the true Hijiri is out there somewhere in the real world, which has been devastated by the cataclysm called the **Breakdown Phenomenon**. The destruction was so massive that only mages can venture outside, and therefore, in order to find and save Hijiri, Arata must become a mage himself.

Animated by **Seven Arcs**, the show will be one of the anticipated series this fall. Despite its seemingly obvious magical harem school setup, the show is nonetheless an enjoyable treat filled with spells and exciting battles. So, what are you waiting for? Wake up and learn a thing or two about sorcery in this high-octane anime full of beautiful belles.



World Trigger

Who do you call when aliens lay siege to the city? Policemen? The military? If I were you, I'd call **Border**. You may or may not have yet heard of them, but they're the best in the business of kicking interdimensional behinds. Watch them get down to the dirty work in **World Trigger**.



From the Weekly Shonen Jump manga by **Daisuke Ashihara**, the story is set in **Mikadoshi City**, where one day a portal from another dimension was opened, from which came forth the **Neighbors**, an alien race that wreaked havoc on the city. Their technology is so advanced that no weapons on Earth could fight them, except those from **Border**. After the event, Border has created many headquarters, organized defense systems, and researched about Neighbor technology, making life in Mikadoshi City peaceful to a certain degree. Living in these times is **Osamu Mikumo**, a seemingly weak high school student who's actually a member of Border. As if his life isn't plagued enough with Neighbor attacks, a boy named **Yuuma Kuga** joins his class, and while his actions are bordering on the benevolent, he's not of this planet...

The show is animated by **Toei Studio**, so expect awesome extraterrestrial adrenaline-pumping action this fall! So step into another world and pull the trigger - I know you want to~

神撃のバハムト

GENESIS

written by Kandy

Rage of Bahamut is a card battle game developed and published by Cygames. Launched last February 2012, it stayed as the Top Grossing Chart topper on US Google Play for 16 weeks starting April. The original game is a fantasy adventure game in which players roam the world, drawing out powers from cards. Players choose between 'Man', 'Gods' or 'Demons' cards and strengthen themselves as well as their teams by collecting, synthesizing and evolving a variety of unique cards.

Next season, the game will be adapted into anime series, Shingeki no Bahamut Genesis. The anime is led by a bounty hunter named Favaro (Hiroyuki Yoshino) with Kaiser (Tsuyoshi Inoue) from a family of knights and Amira (Shimizu Risa) a girl who fell from the sky. Several characters resemble the cards in the game like Kerberos, Jeanne d' Arc, Bacchus and Hansa and Azazel.

Anime adaptation of games are becoming popular after Date a Live and Danganronpa. Since players of the game are sure to check it out if the anime will be committed to the game they know so well. So enjoy this anime as much as the game itself.

Shingeki no Bahamut Genesis looks very well done. The backgrounds remind us of Shingeki no Kyojin while the animation is as smooth as Log Horizon, two of our favorite shows so we eagerly look forward to the anime itself!



A good librarian is like a good shepherd.

Kyotaro Kakei is the only member of the Library Club in Shomi Academy. He receives a mysterious text from a 'shepherd' saying his fate is about to change.

He encounters Tsugumi Shirasaki a second-year girl whom he saves at the train station. She later joins the Library Club and has also started receiving text from the shepherd.

Daitoshokan no Hitsujikai: A Good Librarian Like a Good Shepherd is an anime adaptation of the hit 2013 adult PC game produced by Hoods Entertainment. There have been five manga adaptations based on the game published by ASCII Media works, Ichijinsha, Kadokawa Shoten and Media Factory.

The anime is made by Team Niko: Kenichi Konishi, Tomomi Kamiya, Asami Sodeyama, Kaori Hayashi, Yu Nobuta as directors, character designers and animation directors under the Hoods Entertainment who has produced animes such as The Qwaser of Stigmata, Mysterious Girlfriend X and Kanojo ga Flag wo Oraretara. The main character, Kyotaro Kakei will be dubbed by Junji Majima while Tsugumi Shirasaki by Madoka Yonezawa.

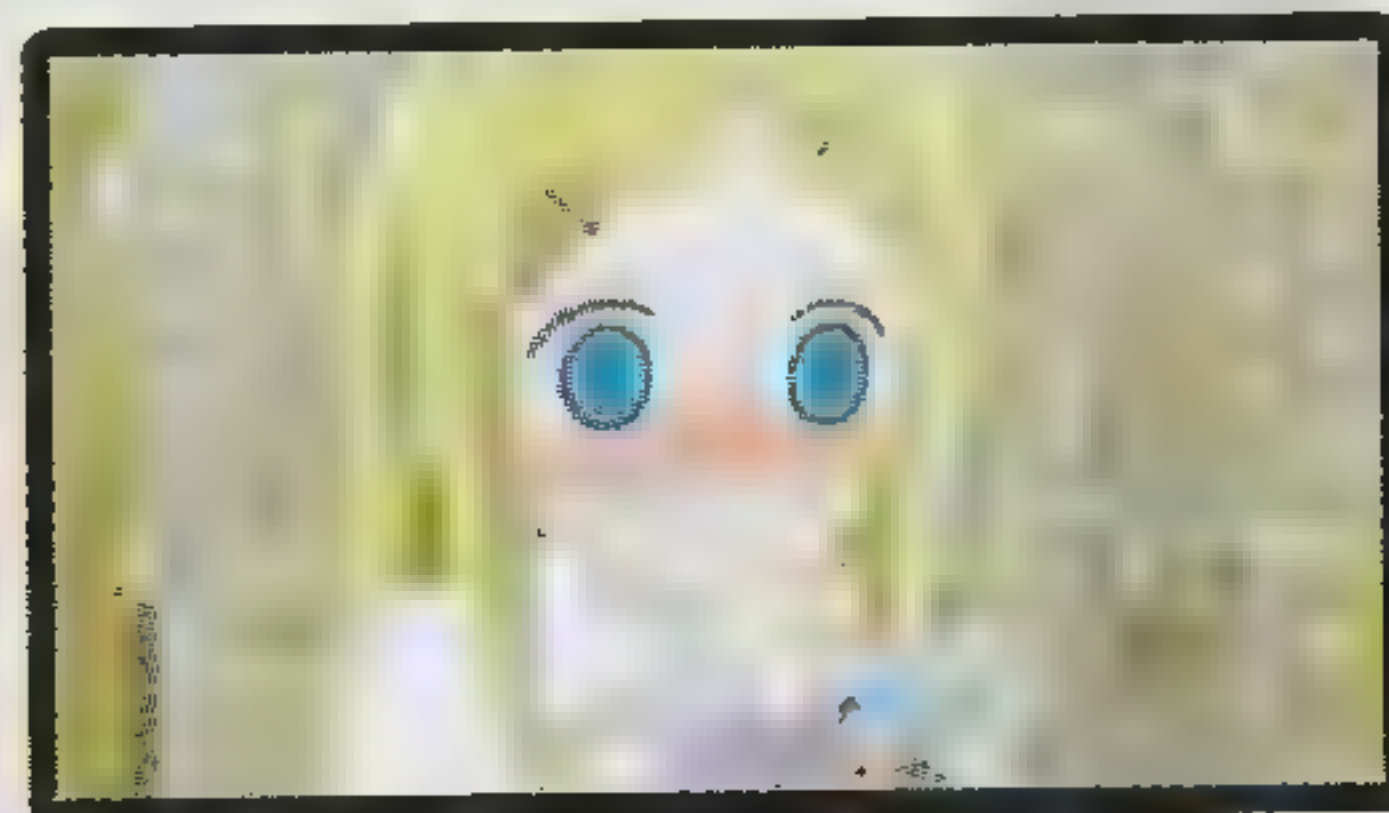
We will not be short on cute girls this season thanks to animes like these. The fall anime season will surely be exciting! Were you also a member of the library club in your school? Why not be one now and maybe make new friends just like



Part-time Work, Fulltime Craziiness Denki-gai no Honya San

written by James

As a person whose reviews works under geek culture, be it Japanese, Western, or local, I can tell you that although I do enjoy what I do, it's not all fun and games. Still, it is indeed an enjoyable experience, because it is something closely tied with something I love, which I get to share with my co-workers. I'm sure the people of Umanohome can relate to what I feel. Check out their surprisingly exciting life as doujin manga shopkeepers in **Denkigai no Honya-san**.



Based on the manga by **Mizu Asato**, the show, which was animated by **Shin-Ei animation**, revolves around the daily lives of the staff of the doujin manga shop **Umanohome**. In this quirky little shop full of quirky people, everyone has a nickname, except our lead **Umio**, the shy part-timer. Since he's a part-timer, he has yet to earn a nickname. Nevertheless, he enjoys the company he spends with his codenamed coworkers: **Sensei**, a secret part-time manga artist; the hardworking yet clumsy **Hio**; **Director**, who, as his moniker suggests, films his coworkers and directs the shop when the manager isn't around; and the perverted and zombie-obsessed **Fugal**.

Join them in their everyday lives, that despite seem to be ordinary, never gets dull!!!



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Otaku
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HOT ANIME



Aikatsu!

by Yani

Every person has a dream of whom he/she wants to be in the future. As a person grows up, their dreams may stay the same, or change or get confused of what they want to do/be.

Ichigo Hoshimiya knows nothing about idols until one day she saw her brother staring at his collection of pictures of the famous idol Mizuki Kanzaki. Being curious about them, she watched a live concert performance of Mizuki with the help of her best friend Aoi Kiriya who is knowledgeable about idols. She was amazed by the performance of Mizuki which made her realize what she wants, becoming an Idol. She enrolled at Starlight Academy where idol trains to become an idol together with Aoi. It is also where Mizuki is currently studying at. Will Ichigo be able to face the challenges Starlight Academy has to offer and will she be able to meet new friends or perhaps enemies?

Aikatsu! is an anime series written by Yoichi Kato and directed by Ryuichi Kimura. The series started airing last October 8, 2012 and it is still ongoing up to now. Aikatsu is originally an arcade card game released by Bandai. The game features a variety of cards which has different outfit in it that will help aspiring idols in becoming one and passing every auditions.

Characters:

Ichigo Hoshimiya

The main protagonist of the story. Ichigo originally dreams of inheriting her mother's bento shop but that changed one day when watched the famous idol Mizuki perform onstage. She pursues of becoming an idol together with her bestfriend Aoi at Starlight Academy.

Ran Shibuki

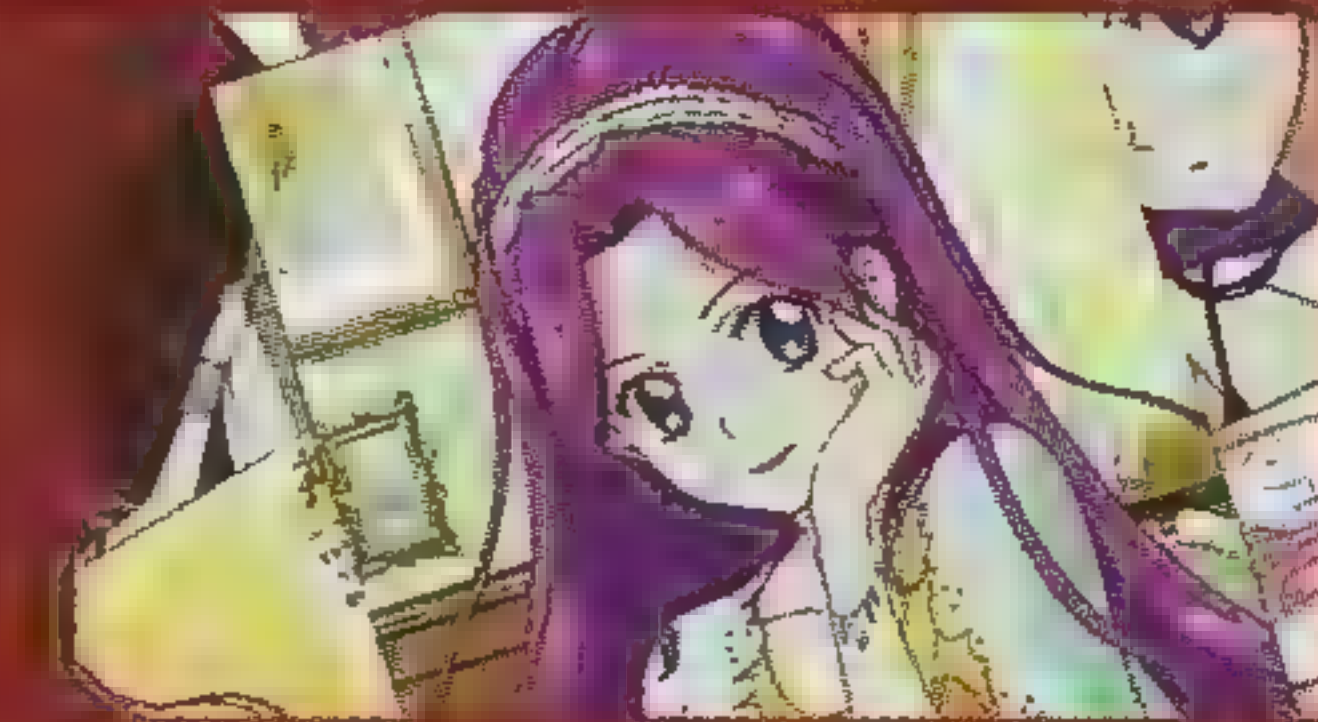
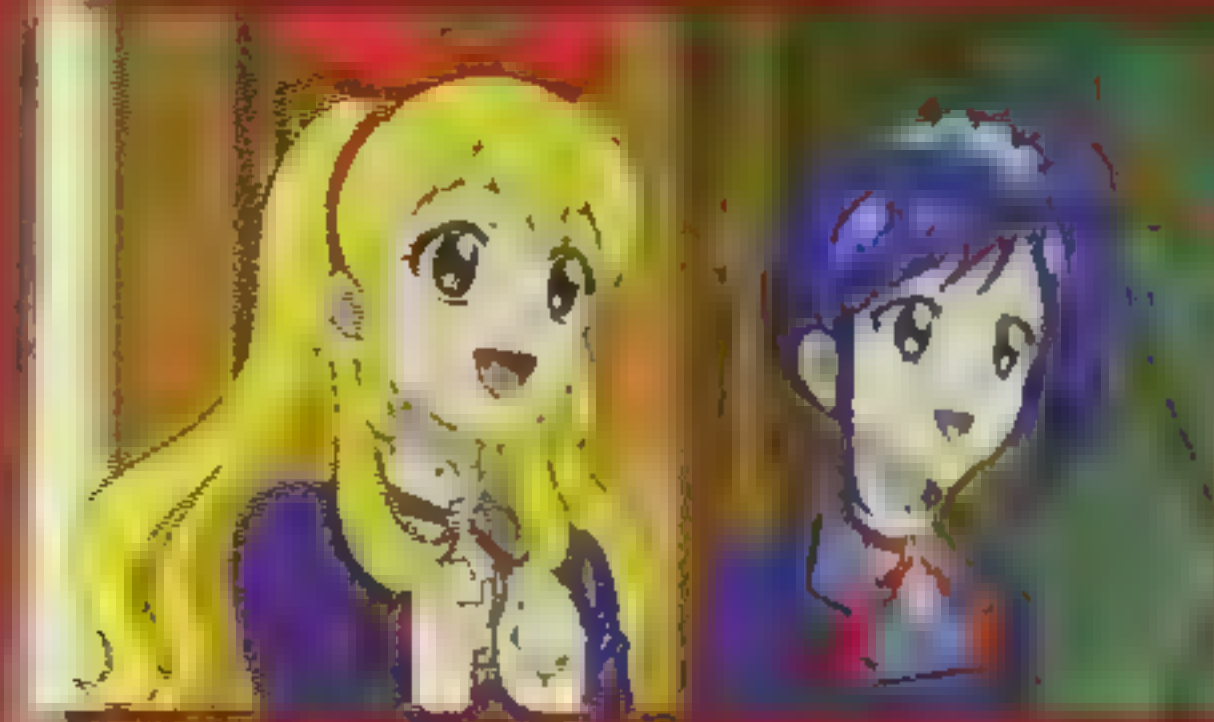
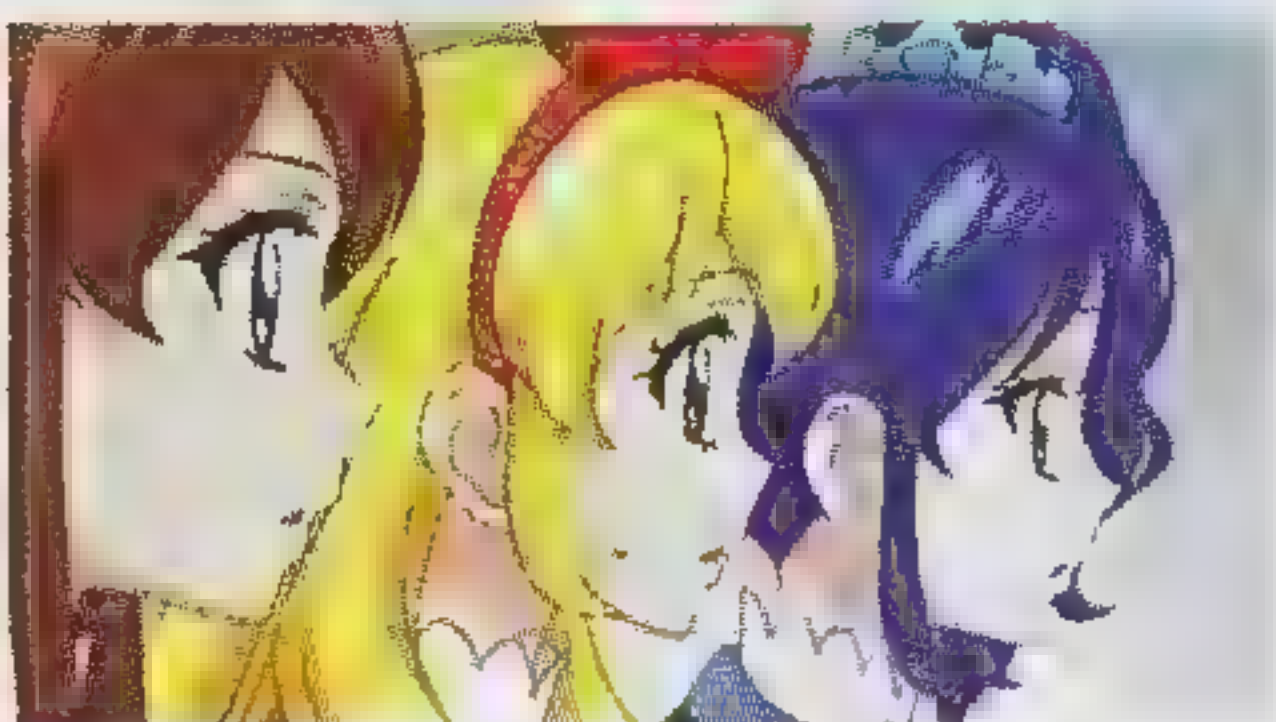
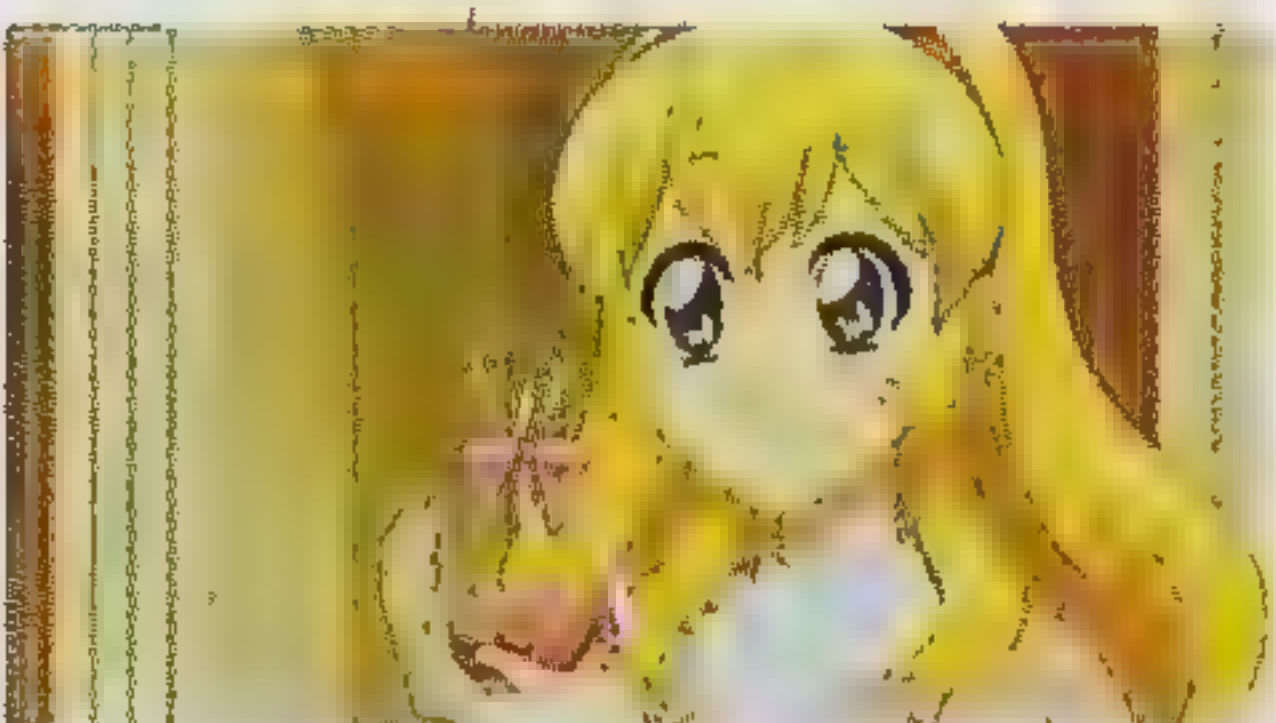
Ran has been watching Ichigo and Aoi since they entered Starlight Academy believing that their friendship will be over but in the end, she became close and friends with the two.

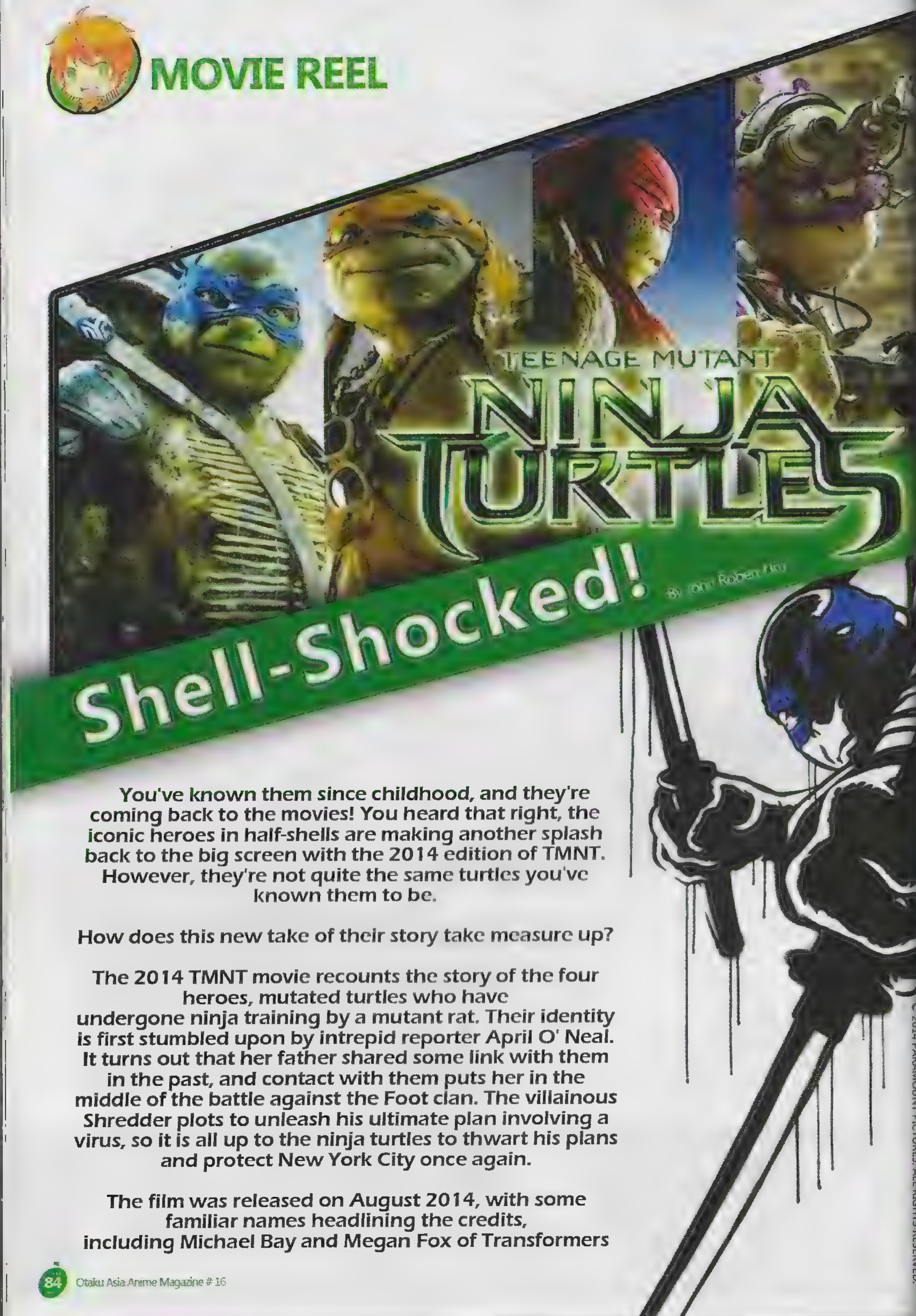
Aoi Kiriya

Ichigo's bestfriend. She and Ichigo have known each other since childhood. She is also dubbed as the 'Idol professor' due to the fact that she knows everything about every idol.

If you're an idol anime fan then Aikatsu! is the right anime for you! It also had a touch of a bit magical which makes it more fun and interesting to watch. You'll also get to learn what really happens at the idol world; their training, hardwork, their environment and most of all what will they gain from it.

If you're planning to become an idol or how to become one someday then this anime will teach you how to become one. Let's follow Ichigo's adventures in Starlight Academy and learn from her at the same time on Aikatsu!





You've known them since childhood, and they're coming back to the movies! You heard that right, the iconic heroes in half-shells are making another splash back to the big screen with the 2014 edition of TMNT. However, they're not quite the same turtles you've known them to be.

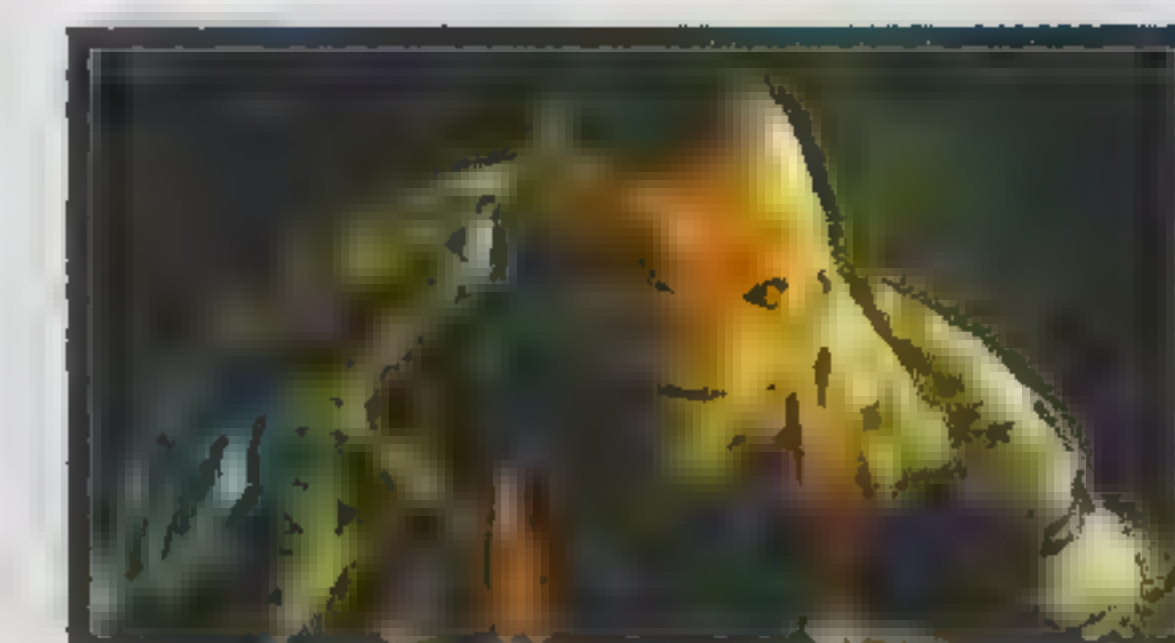
How does this new take of their story take measure up?

The 2014 TMNT movie recounts the story of the four heroes, mutated turtles who have undergone ninja training by a mutant rat. Their identity is first stumbled upon by intrepid reporter April O' Neal. It turns out that her father shared some link with them in the past, and contact with them puts her in the middle of the battle against the Foot clan. The villainous Shredder plots to unleash his ultimate plan involving a virus, so it is all up to the ninja turtles to thwart his plans and protect New York City once again.

The film was released on August 2014, with some familiar names headlining the credits, including Michael Bay and Megan Fox of Transformers

fame. It was promptly met with mixed reception, mostly due to the changes made, such as the CGI rendering of the turtles. After this film, two more sequels have been announced, making this a trilogy. The next movies will feature other villains from the old cartoon series such as Bebop and Rocksteady.

As a film, TMNT does what it was supposed to do. Those who watch the film will find no shortage of action, with a lot of comedy thrown into the mix. While the new visual renditions of the characters and the darker overall feel of the film might take a while to get used to, they're definitely a welcome change. In fact, visual effects remain one of the most notable aspects of the film, just like most Michael Bay films.



Ready to take the dive back to New York City and fight crime? If so, then this movie is just for you!

AKIRA PROJECT

The Akira Project: Makin' It Real

written by: Ann

What happens when you've got a team of creative minds and a full-powered passion for a favorite manga? Well, of course, that's nothing less than fan fiction, but this group did not come up with just any kind of fan fiction video. They have come up with a trailer for a live action of Katsuhiro Otomo's Akira!

Katsuhiro Otomo created Akira as a manga in 1982. Similar to the original plot of the manga, the trailer portrays a Neo-Tokyo that has widespread terrorism and gang violence as its troubles. But the conflict doesn't stop there as a child with special telepathic powers blocks Tetsuo's bike and causes an explosion. With Tetsuo's psychic powers being triggered, Kaneda is left with the decision to save his friend or his nation. Which then is the path he can choose to be the good leader everyone including him thinks he is?



With Nguyen-Anh Nguyen as the producer and director, and his small film production company, Cineground, as the brains, The Akira Project launched a fan-based project that is meant to honor Otomo's classic science fiction work. The manga was a phenomenal breakthrough for the genre because it introduced a post-apocalyptic cyberpunk experience. Some of the members of The Akira Project are Osric Chau as executive producer and as actor for one of the main characters, Kaneda; Jan Belina- Brzozowski as director of photography; Santiago Menghini as visual effects supervisor; Laura Nhem as production designer; Xavier Yuvens as Tetsuo; Simon Li as Yamagata; and Judy Wong as Kei.

The project is non-profit so in 2012, they launched a campaign to raise funds. On indiegogo.com, the team was able to gather a sum of \$3,428 to proceed with the production of their trailer project. They mention that the key motivation to their work is the will to commemorate Otomo. It has been noted that there were previous proposals to the making of the live-action film by a Hollywood company. The group wishes that with the trailer, maybe this time around, seeing the film on the silver screen will no longer be a fantasy.

With the looks of the trailer, one would not easily believe that they worked on it with a limited budget because of the high-def visual effects. The trailer was very moving that it could make one feel that it came out of a full-length movie. Although The Akira Project is not really doing a movie, everyone's looking forward to see more of the live action of Akira. We do hope that if this doesn't get Hollywood to get their own movie plans going, the project could be given help to make this dream a full-length feature reality for both Akira fans and the general public!





One goal in mind can be made into reality through having a determined heart and a strong will to do so. What if multiple individuals come together to achieve one goal? Let's see how our soon-to-be idol sensations achieve their dream!

Love-Live! School idol project

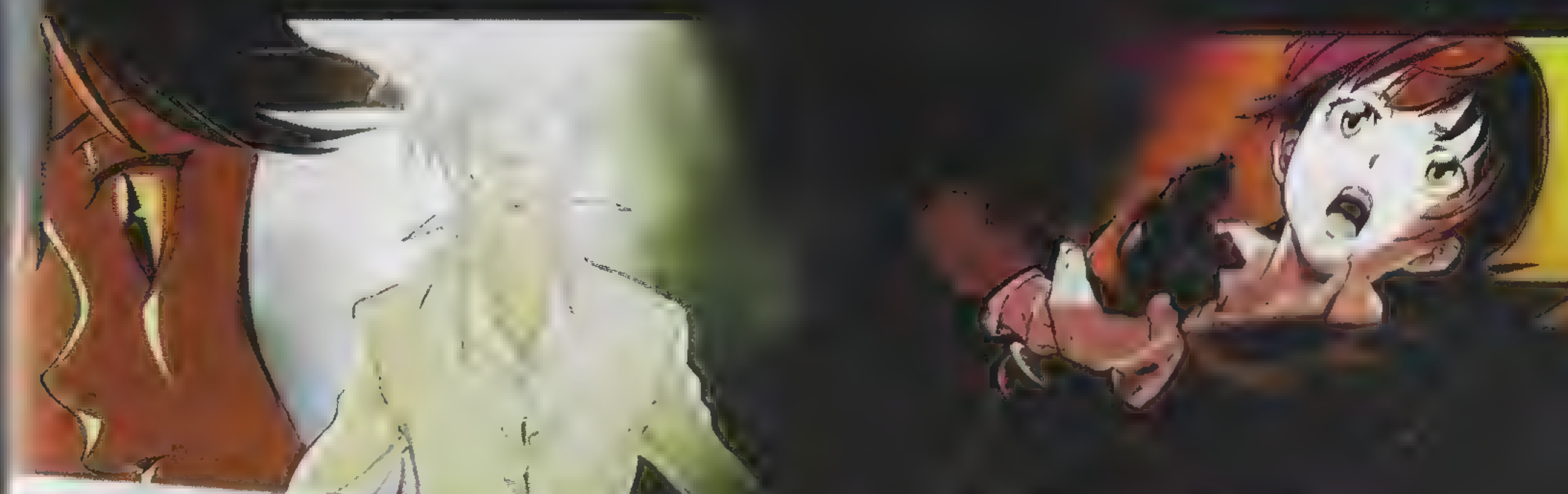


Otonokizaka High School is located between three cities of different cultures which are: Akihabara, Kanda and Jinbo. Due to the cultural clash, this school faces a fewer enrollment rate that will result for it to close down soon. Honoka Kosaka, a student of this school becomes determined to prevent her school from shutting down through forming an idol group to revive her school's popularity. This idol group "μ" (pronounced as muse) is composed of 9 members with the ultimate goal of participating in "Love-Live", a school idol competition between the bests of the best groups in the country.

Love Live! is a co-project developed by Dengeki G's Magazine, the music label Lantis and Sunrise animation studio. It has several adaptations such as mangas, anime music videos and cd's, video games and a 13-episode anime series that aired in Japan between January and March 2013 with an animated film greenlit for production.

With a great art and animation mixed with music, this is a sure idol anime to put in your watch list.

If you want to know more about μ's journey to achieve their goal, be sure to check out and sing along with Love-Live!



Safety is one of the things we always want to ensure but with crimes going around unpredictably; no one can really feel complete assurance. What if the society has the means to prevent crime before it even starts? Enter the world where the citizens' mental states and criminal tendencies are actively measured.

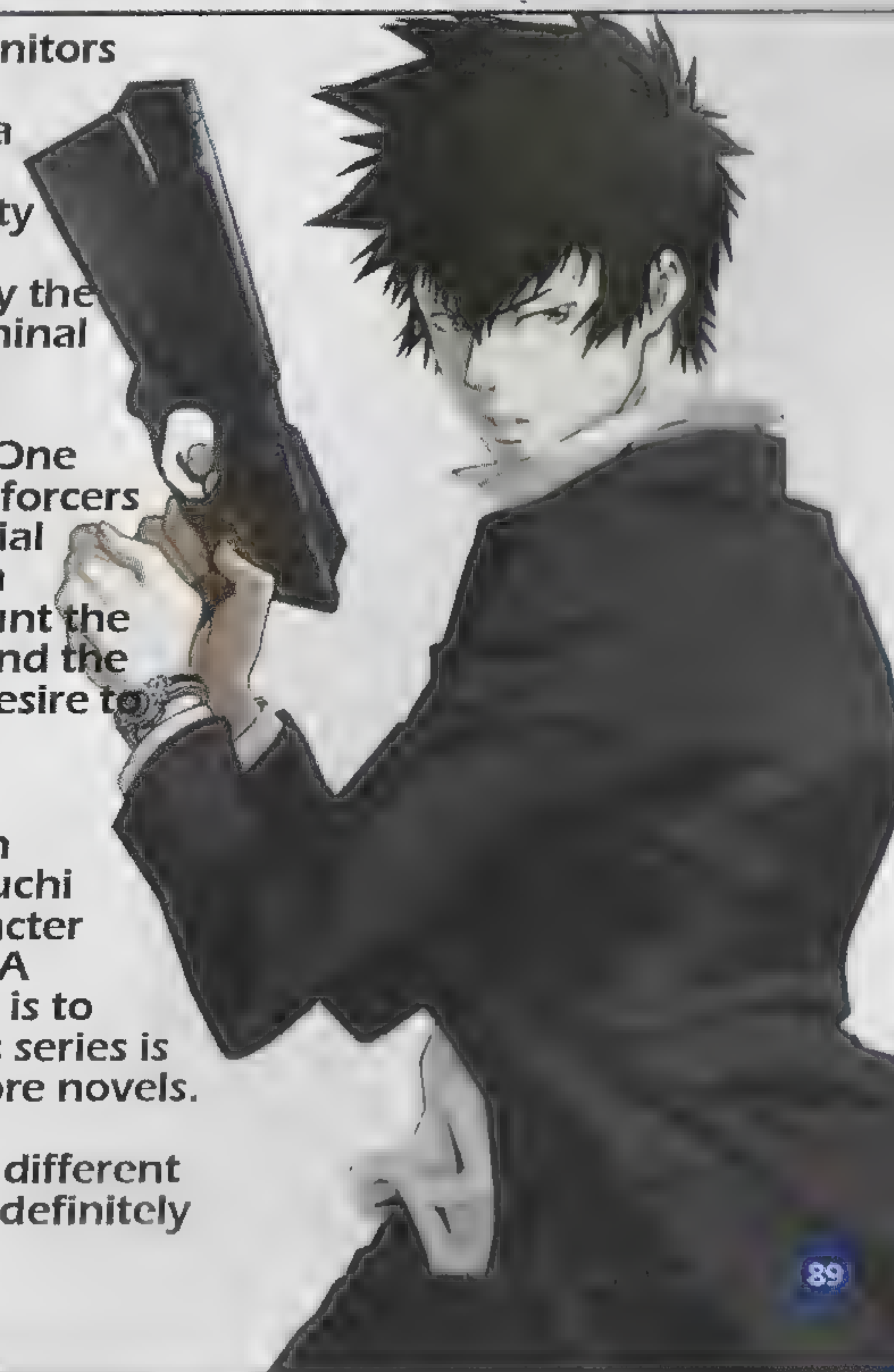
PSYCHO-PASS

In the year 2113, the Sibyl System actively monitors every individual's mental state, emotions, personalities and their probability to commit a crime with the resulting assessment called "Psycho-Pass". When an individual's probability reaches a certain point in the Crime Coefficient, he or she will be pursued by the enforcers from the Public Safety Bureau's Criminal Investigation Division.

Akane Tsunemori is a new Inspector for Unit One from the Division and fights criminals with Enforcers with the help of "Dominators" which are special weapons that will only fire with a higher than acceptable Crime Coefficient. They seek to hunt the man named Shogo Makishima which was found the mastermind for multiple crimes and has the desire to destroy the Sibyl System.

Psycho-Pass is an anime series produced by Production I.G that was aired in Japan back in October 2012. This was written by Gen Urobuchi and directed by Naoyoshi Shiotani with character designs from Reborn's creator, Akira Amano. A second season will air in October 2014 which is to be followed by an animated film in 2015. This series is also adapted to a manga, video game and more novels.

Good animation, character development and different philosophies of good and bad, Psycho-Pass is definitely an anime you need to check out!





SPREADING HOPE

written by ann

Something's going viral but it's not causing a disease; instead, it's causing a craze that's infectious and fun. The ALS Ice Bucket challenge has certainly spread throughout the world, bringing not only an entertaining skit of people pouring ice or ice cold water on themselves but also a warm atmosphere of genuine concern for others.

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a motor neuron disease that impairs physical functions of the body and causes nerve cells to die, which eventually leads to death. Since there is still no treatment for this disease, the ice bucket challenge was created by the ALS Association to gather donations for their research.

There are varying rules to the game. Some say that one has the option to pour a bucket of ice on oneself instead of donating \$100. However, doing the challenge without the donation is in itself, not a way to help. That is why most people opted to do both, the challenge and the giving of donation! In this way, people are not only helping to save people's lives but are also having fun as they nominate more people into the game.

As it reached worldwide, more and more people, including celebrities have joined the bandwagon. The list includes Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg who challenged Microsoft founder Bill Gates, who in turn, even set up his own contraption! Former U.S. President George W. Bush also took the challenge. But one of the most notable challengers is Matt Damon, as he used toilet water to also promote awareness about the lack of clean drinking water in the world. All these antics led to the ALS Association just recently accumulating \$100 million.

So, before you dump that bucket of ice over your head, don't just think about the people that could smile when they see your video. Think about the people you are helping with your donation. What is the value of their life? Priceless.

Coming back on the silver screen is the loveteam of James Reid and Nadine Lustre, or more popularly known as "Jadine" after their success in their recent project, "Diary ng Panget." This time, they come up as an unusual pair in the teen romantic comedy film based on Alesana Marie's novel *Talk Back and You're Dead*.

The film features Samantha (Nadine Lustre), a rich girl who sees her life as nothing but perfect until she becomes the center of revenge of a gang leader, Top (James Reid). Upon seeing one of her friends in trouble in the mall, she tries to defend her but ends up hitting the wrong person because her friends were playing a bad prank. Top then swears that she will kill her when he finds her. But what happens if they eventually develop feelings for each other? Will love again conquer hate or will their past promises complicate the future?

Distributed by Viva Films and Skylight Films, *Talk Back and You're Dead* is directed by Andoy Ranay. Along with the Jadine loveteam comes Joseph Marco who plays the role of Red, Samantha's other love interest.

Despite many criticisms due to problems with the story's plot, the film was received with immense support from the teenage audiences. It certainly appeals to the viewers because of the more mature roles that the actors had to take.

written by ann



© Talk back and you're dead, 2014, Viva Films, Skylight Films, Alesana Marie



O-KUN TALES

HELOISE BLYTHE R. DIAMANTE

Nickname: Kent

GM (general manager) name: Kandy

Birthday: December 30

Age: ehehehe

Zodiac Sign: Capricorn/ Metal Horse

Ambition:

to be the very best like no one ever was

FAVORITES

Color: Purple

Band: Linked Horizon, SCANDAL

Singer: Adam Levine

Song: Stars by Adam Levine

Movie: at the moment, Marvel Movies

Actor: Johnny Depp, Benedict Cumberbatch

Actress: Keira Knightley, Natalie Portman

Food: anything but vegetables and spicy

Sport: tennis, badminton

Athlete: Andy Murray

Likes: anime/manga with mystery, action and sometimes slice of life

Dislikes: spicy foods, bug eyed anime

Motto: *Chi trova un amico trova un tesoro*

First anime crush: Eriol Hiiragizawa from CCS

Who is your first love: Cho Hakkai from Saiyuki

TREE GUARDIAN



Purify! *inserts glorious attack sound* Kandy purifies everything, literally. (She has a stash of disinfectant sprays~) You can determine the seasons just by looking at her 'leaves' (hair), as it changes like a legit tree!

Hmmm... Show her a white-haired anime character, give her a minute to spazz. Instant cosplan~! Fetish. *coughs*

As the Mother tree, she leads the wacky OA league with her quick wit and fun ideas. With GM Kandy on our front line, the OA league gets every mission done!



DIANNE MICHELLE E. GAVIÑO

Nickname: Yani/Ryuu

GM name: Yani

Birthday: April 27

Age: syntax error

Zodiac Sign: Taurus

Ambition: To go at the alternate world and meet my counterpart.

FAVORITES

Color: Pink

Band: S/mileage

Singer: Hatsune Miku

Song: Aa Susukino/Konnichiwa Konbanwa

Movie: Frozen

Actor: KENN

Actress: Erika Sawajiri

Food: takoyaki

Sport: badminton

Athlete: Ryoma Echizen

Likes: strawberry-chocolate flavored food

Dislikes: traitors *cries*

Motto: "We are all like fireworks. We climb, shine and always go our separate ways and become further apart. But even if that time comes, let's not disappear like a firework and continue to shine forever"

First anime crush: Megaman

Who is your first love: err... what?

MAGICAL GIRL

There is magic in the air when Yani is around. She can always magically take out anything we need like scissors, safety pins, hair pins, glue, bandages and even sandwiches.

She's always prepared!

Another magic of her is her ability to remember the articles of an Otaku Asia issues sometimes even including the pages!



AIRA ANGELICA F. AGACAN

Nickname: Rhaine

GM name: Almadel (I seriously dunno how I got that name)

Birthday: June 18

Age: 001010100100101001

Zodiac Sign: Gemini

Ambition: To witness an opening of a portal to the game world and go to Ernas to meet the Grandchase and join them

FAVORITES

Color: Red and Green

Band: One OK Rock

Singer: Kanon Wakeshima

Song: Hope Rock Version (GC Theme song)

Movie: Godzilla the Final Wars

Actor: Johnny Depp

Actress: uhhhh forgot her name

Sport: Freeeee! Swimming (I don't know how to swim, but I like the waters)

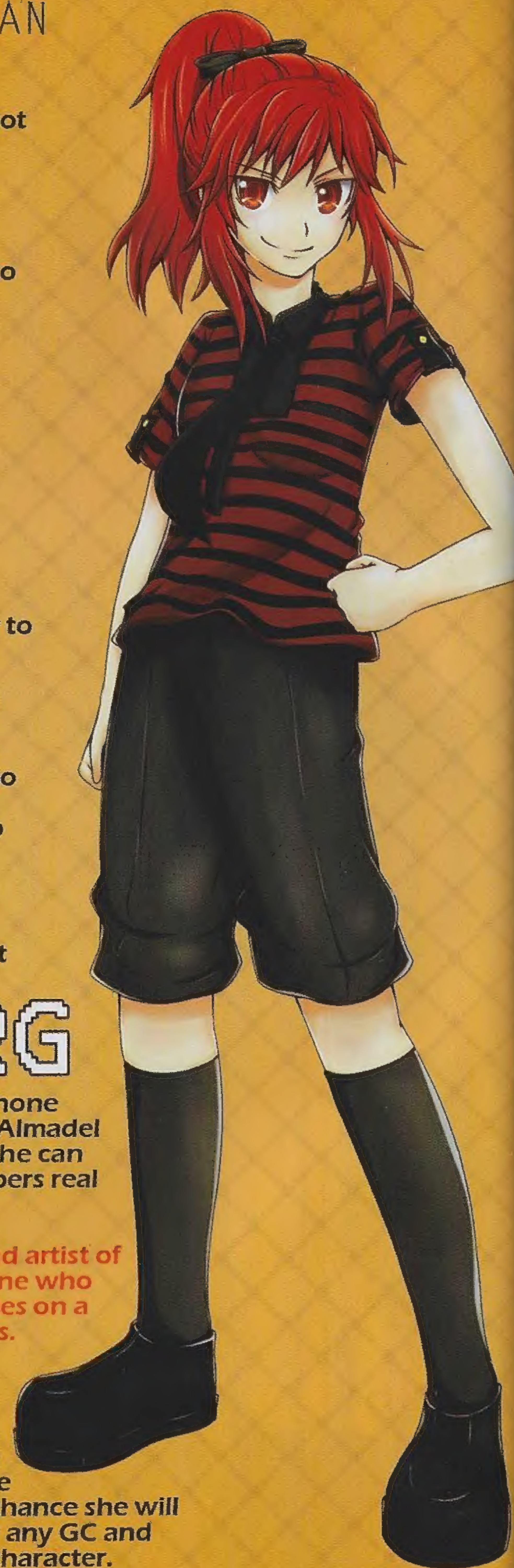
Athlete: Rin Matsuoka

Food: *jumps like Italy* PASTAAA~ And spicy foods

Likes: Food, sleeping, Grandchase, people who gives me food, more food, more Grandchase.

Dislikes: ONLINE GAME DISCONNECTION, no sleep, Greco burn =m=*

Motto: In this place where our dreams will be one...It's the start for us our journey begins now...To love...Forever...Chase...Go for the lost world~



CYBORG

Forgot a cellphone number? Maybe Almadel can help you! She can remember numbers real fast!

She is also the head artist of OA and is the one who draws O-kun tales on a normal basis.

Show her a red-themed character who is strong and has a big weapon, she there is a high chance she will cosplay it. Or any GC and Elsword character.

AAREN ARAI DG. SANTOS

Nickname: Ren

GM name: Ren

Birthday: June 17

Age: o u o

Zodiac Sign: Gemini

Ambition: to be an assassin . _ ."

FAVORITES

Color: Black/Red/Blue

Band: Linkin Park o u o

Singer:

Song:

Movie:

Actor: -bad with names

Actress: Adelaide Clemens, Kaya Scodelario

Food: Praise the Food!!! (except ube...)

Sports: Basketball

Athlete: -o__o-

Likes: Video games (console and MMO's), action, horror, anime xD, Duckies, ferrets, outer space, aliens, technology, weapons, ninjas, assassins

Dislikes: Sports video games, Ash Ketchum

Motto: Niente è vero, tutto è permesso.

First anime crush: Resha Valentine (Rave Master)

Who is your first love: secret



ENGINEER

If you needed help with anything, there's Ren to the rescue. She can fix everything especially when our Cyborg is malfunctioning.

She works really fast, especially in layouting the magazine.

Another thing, she is also good with Math, and finishing quests and missions on video games.





#THROWBACK

Itsudatte

My Santa!

written by: Ann

Spending Christmas together with our families may seem like a trivial tradition for us but for some, it is their heart's only desire.

A girl by the name Mai meets a boy in a plaza and tells him that she wants to spend the night with him in an attempt to make him happy. This boy tries to reject her and does not believe her when she says that she has the ability like that of Santa Claus to cheer him up. But he confesses that he hates Christmas because he was born on Christmas Eve and was named Santa! What then does Mai have to do to get him to fall in love with Christmas (and her)?



A quirky but funny plot and characters best characterize *Itsudatte My Santa!* of the manga by Ken Akamatsu, creator of *Love Hina*. This one-chapter manga was released in 1998 and was later adapted into an OVA by FUNimation in 2007. The OVA had two episodes, one of which adds another story from the original manga.

Although the story is short and the exaggeration can sometimes be overwhelming, the big lessons still emerge as the highlight of the story. It tackles the importance of Christmas cheer. Through the character of Santa, we can see what we sometimes failed to see, and that is the warmth and love that we have always been surrounded with.

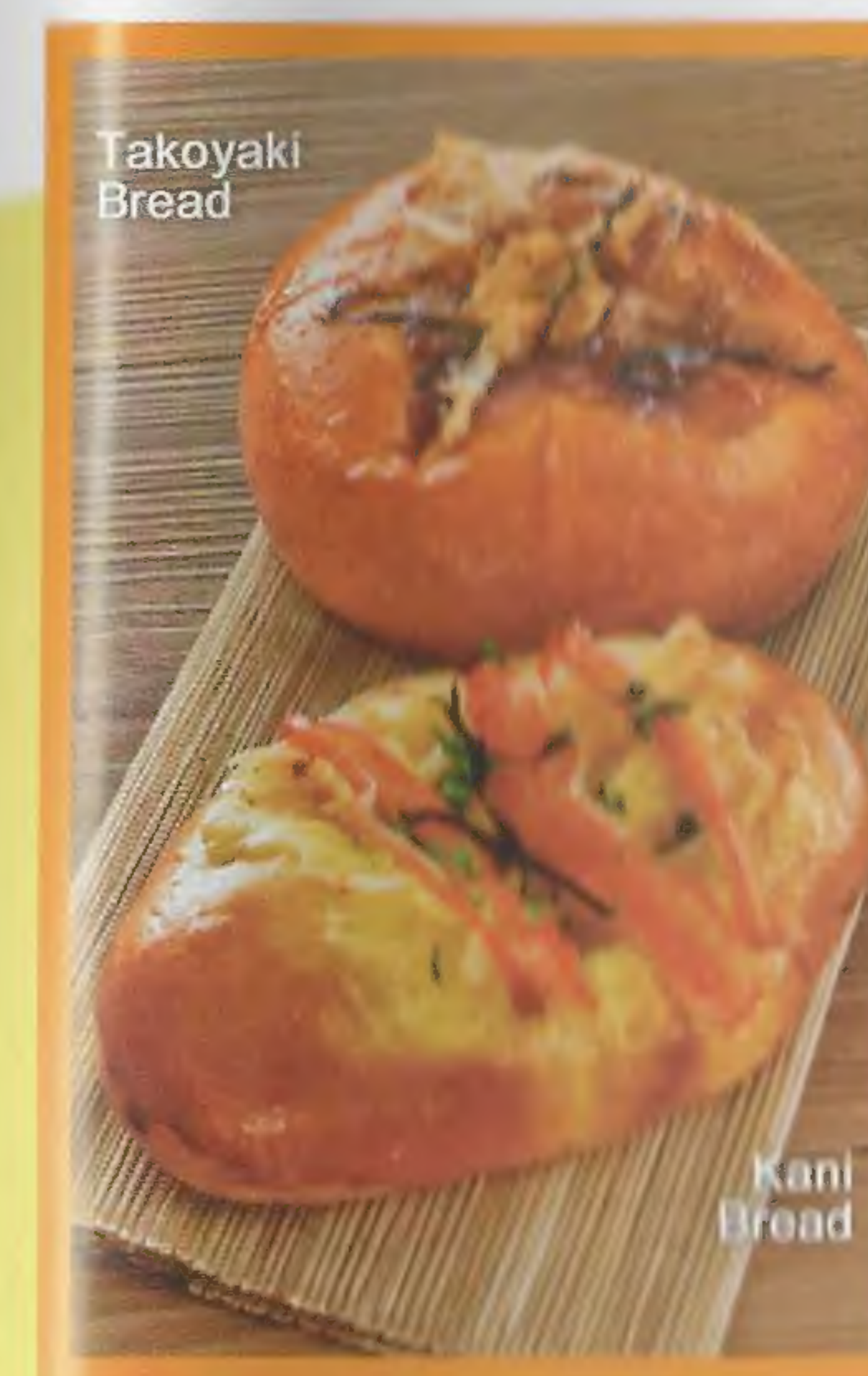
So, share that love and that good cheer with everyone as you take a little time to read more or watch a bit more about the adventure of a year in *Itsudatte My Santa!*



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